



Gallery exhibit preview

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Writing Awards announced

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NECC Observer

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Northern Essex Community College

Fees go up

Trustees approve increases; costs rise \$4 per credit hour

By GAVIN SUTCLIFFE
Observer Editor

Fees in the day division and tuition in the division of continuing education (DCE) will rise by \$3 per credit hour next semester.

The NECC Board of Trustees recently approved President John R. Dimitry's fiscal plan. His measures include an increase in the Institutional Educational Fee and the use of trust funds.

This increase, netting \$535,000, is intended to redress the latest four percent budget cut mandated by the Board of Regents of Higher Education. A total of 11 percent has been cut from NECC's budget this fiscal year.

"We clearly are running out of money," Dimitry said. "It's a serious amount of money. The only thing I can say is it's absolutely necessary."

Tough decision: Marjorie Gouldreault, trustee's chairperson, said, "We hate to vote for fee increases, but we will deny students education if we don't provide for (expenses)."

The additional cost for a student carrying 15 credits will be \$45, bringing the total educational fees for a day student to \$261.

Dimitry said, "It's a lot of money, but it's way, way below

what other community colleges charge."

Trustee Ouhraha Behrakis said, "It's still a bargain."

According to a Regents survey, of the 15 community colleges, NECC ranks 13th in the amount of educational fees. Mount Wachusett ranks first with \$564, a \$250 increase over last semester. Almost all community colleges will increase their spring educational fees from \$40 to \$280.

"We're cutting things so sharply," Dimitry said. "We've reduced our reserves to almost nothing. We must have this increase."

Night costs: DCE tuition, which is set by the trustees, will also rise \$3 per credit hour, primarily to fund the new teacher contract signed over the summer. Tuition will increase from \$66 to \$69 per credit hour, adding about \$40,000 to the DCE trust fund.

The day fee increase will be reviewed before the fall '91 semester, and the trustees will decide if it needs to be kept.

Dimitry is not optimistic the fees will be reduced, however. He said the state colleges are waiting to see what Governor-elect William Weld proposes and passes for the next fiscal year's higher education budget.

"It's unrealistic to believe it's temporary," Dimitry said.



Holiday concert

PR photo

The NECC Chorus and Performance Ensemble will present a Holiday Pops Concert Friday in the Student Center. Under the direction of faculty member Michael Finegold, the program will feature solos by Annelies Schumm, vocals and piano; Lesley Richardson, saxophone and clarinet; and Scott Giesecke, voice.

Student Activity fee jumps \$1 per credit hour

By GREG J. JOINER
Observer News Editor

The NECC Board of Trustees has approved a \$1 per credit hour increase in the student activity fee.

Initially proposed by the student senate, the fee quickly won support from NECC President John R. Dimitry.

"It's a sound recommendation, very disciplined. I think it's the only time in the history of higher education students have voted...to raise fees.

"They (students) said they are willing to tax themselves an additional \$1 an hour."

Good argument: Steve Michaud, director of student activities, said, "The student senate presented their arguments very well and the president accepted it to my surprise."

Michaud was originally against the fee increase.

"I was somewhat surprised to see the fee increase introduced by the senate. I think we have enough money in student activities. I wasn't prepared for this increase, at least not for a couple of years.

"My...concern is that we have a lot of money tied up in our reserve. We always estimate conservatively with the enrollment numbers.

"Personally, I think it's something I can live with. My only concern, I guess it's not being addressed, is that with all of the other increases...there would be more opposition or more questions raised about it (fee increase) by the students in general."

Needed increase: John Hosty, student senate president, said it was necessary to raise activity fees in order to better serve NECC

Steve Michaud

"I was somewhat surprised to see the fee increase introduced by the senate. I think we have enough money in student activities. I wasn't prepared for this increase, at least not for a couple of years."

students.

"We do not have enough money in our budget to do the things we want to do. We want to go above and beyond what we've already been providing. This raise hasn't come for four and a half years. Everyone agreed it was due to raise."

Hosty said last year's senate plan to phase out funding to the Bright Horizons Scholarship, the Office for Students with Disabilities, and Student Health Services influenced the senate's decision to raise fees.

"The idea originally was to expand programming and to eliminate the phase out. In order to do both, we felt as though we had to rise above and beyond the phase out with the monies.

Senate showdown: "These services were implemented from day one with student activity money—they were never paid for by the school. The phase out was a showdown

with the administration to see who was going to blink first.

"The dollar per hour credit raise we figured was significant enough to make that change not so much that it was going to hurt each individual student."

Michaud said, "I can understand the increase because of the lack of services and the cuts voted on by last year's senate."

Dimitry praised the senate's decision to support those services effected by the phase out plan.

Creative funding: "From a practical standpoint, if these various (services) are useful to students and we can use the mechanisms of student activity funds to pay for them, let's do it..."

"I really think their (senate) values are good. The process is correct. A group of people tried to determine what was in their self-interest in a collective way, understanding that they represented the hopes and aspirations of thousands of other people."

Dimitry warned last year's senate their phase out plan would be scrutinized by the incoming senate.

"I told them one legislative body cannot bind another legislative body and that the old order changes and the new order is always coming in—especially at a community college."

Opposing point: Senate member Taqua Turner said that while such areas as OSD and health services are needed, the student activity department shouldn't have to pay for them.

Dimitry said, "I was impressed by the point she made. I made the same point 16 years ago—the commonwealth should be paying for this (services), they really should, but they don't and they never have.

"I've always objected to the skin flint approach that the commonwealth is taking towards student activities. Massachusetts has some very weird ideas as to... what they should and shouldn't pay for."

Hosty wants the senate to form a committee which would regulate campus clubs.

Watchdog needed: "There seems to be a problem in the senate with understanding that you cannot make judgments on the clubs without first having the information on them.

"We have rules and regulations, but we have no one in senate, and no committee to properly watch the clubs and make sure they're following these guidelines.

"I feel we should be taking a closer look at the clubs. One of our primary functions as student senate is to regulate and investigate the clubs. I don't see that responsibility being carried out.

"It's like the Wild West; you have laws, but no one needs to follow them because there's no sheriff."

New committee: Hosty said, "I've been trying to get the senate to agree to put in a standing committee that every year...goes through the clubs, evaluates them as to whether they're following their constitution and the bylaws set down by the senate...informs them if they're not, and gives them the option of either following the laws or a deadline where they'll be cut off from their budget.

"My own personal feelings is that we cannot do that if we're not keeping track of clubs and how they've been progressing and how they've been helping out the school."

Hosty said some clubs have problems which
(continued on page 25)

Holiday hopes

Negotiations may lead to gulf peace

Violence is worsening in our cities, in our suburbs, and in the world.

The holiday season is supposed to be a time of peace, but it is in short supply.

Nowhere is this more evident than in the gulf crisis, where intimidation and bloodshed are poor substitutes for negotiation and compromise.

By the time the next issue of the *Observer* goes to press, we may be at war.

The outlook is frightening. There are now more troops in Saudi Arabia than the U. S. had during Vietnam, and they appear poised for battle.

In the new year, a loved one's only

Observer Editorial

way home may be in a body bag.

There is hope yet, however. Negotiations may soon take place, as Secretary of State James Baker has direct talks with Saddam Hussein.

Hopefully, both the American and Iraqi governments are seriously committed to peace.

The *Observer* hopes no blood is spilled in the desert, and it wishes a peaceful holiday season to all.

WRAZ improving

Business manager says changes coming

To the editor:

I'm writing to make the student body aware of the progress going on at WRAZ. The station has had some difficulty this semester due to lack of funds, lack of an adviser and lack of support.

However, the new management team at WRAZ has been working hard to make improvements.

□ Stacey Meuse of the news dept. has put together a new program.

□ Mike Connor, the program director, has done an excellent job of getting the public service announcements typed and organized.

□ George Dionne, our general manager, has been hustling to keep everything together and get us an adviser (Angela Anderson of WHAV). He's come up with a new program format and he's working on a new training manual.

As for me, I'm the new business manager, as of two weeks ago. In the last two weeks I've

acquired four new sponsors. I'm working on a Christmas card drive to send signed cards to our troops in Saudi Arabia. So far I've gathered around 400 of the 1,000 cards we want to send.

I've contacted CVS and Building 19 about donating, but they haven't responded. Newburyport Card and Gift, Casey Paper (and soon Carlson Real Estate of Newburyport) have donated. I've also landed some marketing and accounting.

Over the Christmas break we will be reorganizing and cleaning the station. We will present a professional image next semester, but we need the continued support of the student body and the faculty. I would also like to take a minute to thank all of our DJs who have been very loyal and cooperative. And thank you for the fair and unbiased coverage.

Sincerely,
Geva Salerno

WRAZ Business Manager

Treat Mother Earth like painter's canvas

Reader says environmental problems can be solved

To the editor:

The human race has a unique place on earth. Our race manipulates the Earth in more spheres and in more dynamic ways than any other organism. Obviously, this ability can help or hurt us.

The Earth is like an easel and the environment is its canvas; our intellect the palette, our physical presence the brush. The quality of our artwork is always in debate, but not the quantity. As with actual artwork, history is the best judge of what we paint. There is no doubt we have improved and depreciated our environment. The most important thing to understand is that we can and do effectuate good and bad change.

What we do to our environment is currently a popular topic for discussion. In general terms, most agree environmental concerns should be a high priority; in specific terms there is less of a consensus.

Jobs and money often push environmental concerns to the background. Our current

economic situation will most likely take precedence over the environment. The situation is frustrating and dangerous. The solution to the problem is attainable. Every individual can help create a new and safer environmental picture. The solution foregoes the confusing arena of politics and gets everyone involved in an effective and simple way.

Quitting smoking, using public transportation, saving energy, buying biodegradable products (and packages), and thinking about what we do to the environment are all helpful actions. Our air, water, and natural resources hang in the balance. If we do not address the problem individually, we stand to lose the future.

What is the easel without the canvas? What good is the palette and brush without a canvas? The brush will perish and the palette will dry out from inactivity. We must not allow the emergence of an empty easel.

B. Allyn Michitson

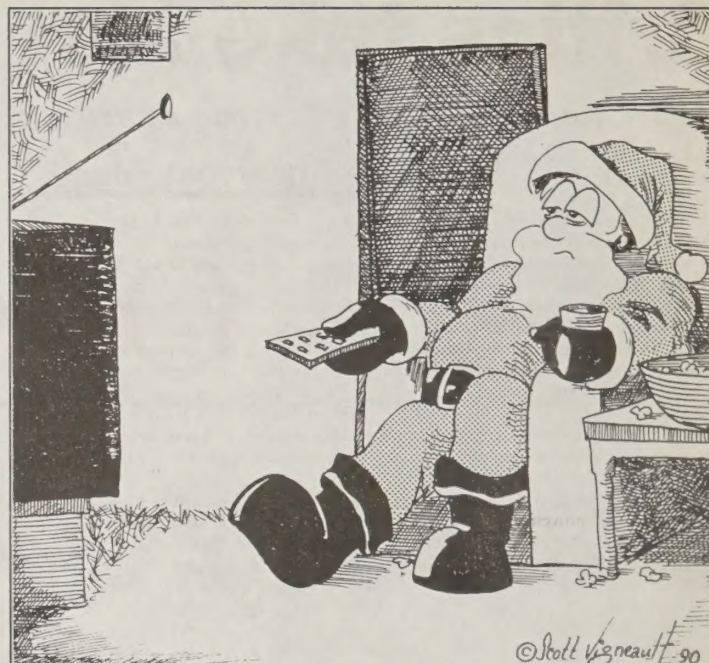
NECC Observer

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The *Observer* is a public forum dedicated to the ideals of quality journalism. To Contribute... Signed letters or guest columns are always welcome, especially if they concern events, people or issues from Northern Essex Community College. Due to space limitations, we reserve the right to edit all material. Happy holidays!



What Santa does the other 364 days of the year

Student hits paper for Masspirg photo

To the editor:

Ever hear of "ethics" or "accuracy in media?" Your article on the Student Environmental Coalition (SEC) in the Nov. 28 issue of the *Observer* is a bit deceiving. The photographs in the article are not connected to the written text, as implied. The photographs of the Masspirg representative, who had asked our faculty adviser to speak, were taken on Oct. 1, at the first meeting of the SEC.

At that time there were no elected officers, which is why I am writing. The interviews that were taken were not taken at that moment in time! They were conducted approximately a month later, on Oct. 29. So, as anyone can see, these two aspects of the article are not related!

Why the misrepresentation? Is it because of indifference? Is it because of incompetence? Or, is it because of bias? Ever hear of "integrity" or "responsible journalism," Mr. Editor? What is the true answer to these questions?

There is a misconception on campus, that the SEC is connected with Masspirg. We are not! The SEC is not affiliated with any outside organizations. We are an autonomous student club, recognized by the Office of Student Activities. Any speaker given permission or invited to speak at one of our club meetings is not an endorsement of that speaker or of what that speaker represents. Which is why I made the statement I did in the article printed Nov. 28 to reply to this apparent misconception.

Our major project at this time is getting paper recycling implemented on campus. With the cooperation of the college administration, we are in the final stages of planning. Our hope is to start this program in the early part of the spring semester. This is one of the many possibilities of what can be accomplished to the benefit of the college. And to the benefit of our environment. Students, faculty and staff are most welcome to come to our meetings, to bring ideas or to participate on any level with club activities and projects.

To end this letter on a positive note, I would like to commend your newspaper and

Observer Letters

whomever is responsible, for printing the advertisement "Humane Alternatives to Animal Dissection," by the Animal Legal Defense Fund. By the way Mr. Editor, is the *Observer* considering printing its newspaper on recycled paper? And, are you aware that there is a soy-based printing ink on the market which doesn't pollute, as does the petroleum-based printing currently in use?

Jeff Knight,
SEC member, former SEC vicepresident, currently in transition to the student senate

Editor's note:
The *Observer* is neither indifferent or incompetent. We are well aware of the definitions of ethics and the need for accuracy in the media. The photographs accompanying the Nov. 28 article depicted a legitimate news event. A speaker addressed the SEC, and the SEC was the subject of the story. The *Observer* consistently tries to practice unbiased, responsible journalism. The only connection between Masspirg and the SEC was that a Masspirg representative addressed the student group. Any relationship beyond that was neither stated or implied.

Jeff Knight SEC member

"I would like to commend your newspaper and whomever is responsible, for printing the advertisement 'Humane Alternatives to Animal Dissection,' by the Animal Legal Defense Fund."

Reader replies to column

To the editor:

In your Nov. 14 column, you incorrectly stated that, "Israel has invaded and occupied Arab territory..."

Israel was given to the Jewish people from the British after World War II.

After the Jewish state was created, Israel was attacked without provocation by six of its Arab neighbors.

In the process of defending itself, Israel

acquired the land in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

To this day, Israel still has to defend itself from its hostile Arab neighbors and the rest of the world.

Don't you think the Jewish people have been the scapegoats long enough?

Sincerely,
Melissa Buchikos

Critics take aim at wrong target

Police not to blame for crime upheaval

MARK HYSLIP
Observer Staff Reporter

Observer Column

In times like these, with violent acts occurring with unnerving frequency, society needs the police to defend and protect. But ever since the Stuart murder case, the Boston area police departments have been on the defensive.

Community leaders and so-called "concerned citizens" have assaulted police with a barrage of complaints of mismanagement and excessive force on numerous cases this past year.

How the police officers apprehend and treat their suspects seems all-important to the community activists. What seems to slip their minds is many of these perpetrators are caught red-handed or are proven guilty. No thought or consideration whatsoever is given to the victims or their families. It should not be forgotten that these people have suffered and will continue to do so.

Two recent cases provide an excellent example of this twisted and ill-conceived criticism. On Oct. 31, Kimberly Rae Harbour was the victim of a savage attack. She was allegedly murdered by a group of eight young men.

Lengthy investigation: It took police 17 days to gather enough information to arrest the eight men and charge them with the homicide. Almost immediately, the complaints started pouring in.

"Concerned citizens" wanted to know why the police hadn't issued more information about the murder. They also suggested that had the victim been a white woman, more information, such as the number of stab wounds, would have been provided.

The police and the detectives involved in the investigation (Peter O'Malley, William

Fogerty and Miller Thomas) stood by their actions and questioned the effect such a disclosure might have had. On one hand, the information might go unnoticed because of the frequent violence in that area. On the other, releasing information containing the suspicion that the attackers were black or Hispanic may have triggered cries of racism.

In another recent case, Hector Morales, 19, of Roslindale, was shot and killed by police officers. He was reportedly on his way to a prearranged gang shootout when police intercepted him.

After first being fired upon, the two officers (Thomas J. Gomperts, 33, and Darrin P. Greeley, 24) shot four rounds at Morales. All four bullets hit their mark.

Wrong priorities: The Egleston Neighborhood Association (ENA), a local organization headed by Pablo Calderon, demanded a full investigation. They accused police of excessive force in the case. These people didn't care that the officers were forced to fire in self-defense. Nor did they care that both the officers were wounded in the shootout. All these people said was "there was only birdshot" in the sawed-off shotgun used by Morales. They neglect to mention that a sawed-off shotgun is illegal.

Groups like the ENA turn this type of case into a media event for the sole purpose of using it as a forum for their own views. It's a lot of self-serving, egotistical bunk.

The police must feel frustrated. They are in a "damned if you do and damned if you don't" situation.

How can these "concerned citizens" expect the police to protect and serve the



community if more and more restraints are put on them?

It's high time the police received support in their efforts to quell what seems to be an ever-increasing tide of violence on city and suburban streets. Society's hands are not completely tied. There is something that can be done.

While Hector Morales' mother, Clara,

wept at the site of her sons' death, her friends put up posters of Hector all over the neighborhood. On one of the posters, a post-script said:

Gang member: "He died like a real X-Man," in reference to his membership in a local gang, the X-Men.

This is the attitude of today's youth. This is the real battle.

What can be done to curb Boston's violence?



Scott Purdie, alumnus.

"Stricter gun laws, that's the thing that's really going to get the people. Other than that, there's not much more we can do about it. They're running amuck; they have the weapons, they have the means to do it, and they're going to do it."



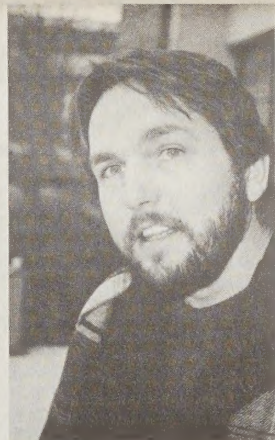
Janet Montanez, liberal arts.

"Have more police patrol around to make sure there are not too many people with guns."



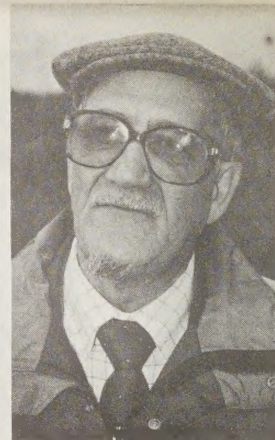
Mark Danus, business.

"Up the police."



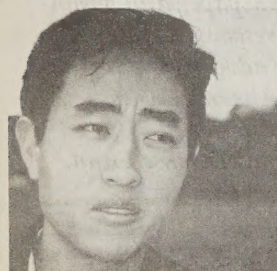
Larry Kent, engineering science.

"It must be rooted around drugs. The reason why the crime is so bad is because the judicial system is too easy on criminals. I think you have to go back to the root of the problem. People who just get their hand slapped for repeated offense see nothing wrong with breaking the law; unfortunately more and more people are getting killed."



Alphee Desjardins, professor, natural science dept.

"National Guard, police action, and community involvement are the only ways I know of...somebody to bring these guys to justice; that would be the neighbors, people involved."



Alex Kim, engineering.

"It's all up to the governor. I think they should fund more for the police departments, hire more manpower. I think the police are sometimes involved in crime, things like that. Maybe people don't really care about it. I think so; it's really all up to the new governor."



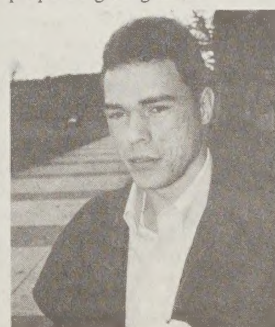
Susan Speed, liberal arts.

"They should have more places for the kids to go, so then they'll stay out of trouble."



Galen McKinnon, illustration.

"It's beyond help."



Kevin Howard, liberal arts.

"Having a curfew to be in at a certain time."



Eloise Adams, business.

"Step up the police force, go into those neighborhoods that are really bad, all the violence, just go right in. It seems like some of the police are more scared of them than anything else."

C. Evans' photos

Art class must meet in hallway

By HEIDI BUMPUS
Observer Staff Reporter

Many teachers and students know hallway activity can be a major distraction during a class. Fortunately, this problem can be easily solved by closing the door. For art teacher Diane Edstrom's Drawing I class, however, there isn't any door to close.

Due to lack of space, Edstrom's art class must use a hallway as its classroom. With people constantly walking through their small circle of easels, concentration is often difficult to maintain.

"It's not so much the noise that bothers me, but more the lack of privacy," student Ruth Bogdan said. "It's hard not to feel self-conscious when people are constantly critiquing my drawings as they pass by."

The class has tried to work in several different areas in the school. So far, the best place available seems to be the third floor hallway.

Poorly lit: "We used to draw in the Top Notch Theatre, but the lighting was horrible," student Wendy Shapiro said. "It is nearly impossible to draw when there are so many shadows and such poor lighting."

Edstrom sympathizes with her students. She finds it hard to understand why she still does not have a room.

"With so many part-time teachers, I realize that it's difficult for people to meet and advocate the needs of the art department," Edstrom said.

Chet Hawrylcw, humanities and communications division chairperson, said the problem is due to a large enrollment in the art courses.

"We have a lot of successful art classes that take up art space," he said.

Edstrom said, "But perhaps if a survey was taken to find when rooms are available and what purpose they are used for, I think a solution could possibly be reached."

Edstrom is not the only teacher struggling



J. Benoit photo

DIANE EDSTROM'S art class works on project in a C-Building hallway.

to find classroom space. Jack Carleton, instructor, dept. of creative arts, sometimes uses NECC President John Dimitry's dining room as his art studio.

Space needed: "This has been an ongoing problem that really needs to be dealt with," Carleton said. "Whether it's on or off campus, space for art classes must be found."

Carleton thinks his students may be deprived of learning certain art techniques because of the inadequate teaching environments.

"Some techniques involving oil based products for example, require proper ventilation which is not accessible in a hallway," Carleton said. "There is a wonderful exhaust fan in the C-Building smoking

room, which unfortunately can not even be utilized."

Rochelle Newman, professor, dept. of creative arts, also recognizes the potential advantages the smoking room offers.

Valuable area: "The student smoking room has a lot of space which art classes desperately need," Newman said. "Perhaps the administration could consider that art classes are more valuable than places to smoke."

Hawrylcw said, "Precious space is being used for a smoking room. The (administration) would have to abandon that space."

There are only two classrooms allotted for art classes. Many part-time teachers must use the same one or two rooms for a variety of

purposes which Newman feels "can be a crunch."

"Early childhood courses should not be held in the art rooms, but should be assigned to specific classrooms," she said.

Hawrylcw said, "Some use the art facility because they need that kind of space for their art projects."

Newman also feels if art rooms were set up better there would be much more space available.

Improvements necessary: "Maybe if more storage areas such as drawers, cabinets, and counter surfaces were built in, it would be possible to fit more people and easels in the art rooms," she said.

Like other teachers, Elaine Mawhinney, chairperson, dept. of creative arts, thinks enrollment in the art classes must be limited to a greater extent.

"Art classes are very heavily enrolled which creates a lot of problems," Mawhinney said.

Hawrylcw said, "The success of the program has created the problem of space."

While Mawhinney recognizes that some administrators have been very supportive, she feels the frustration the space problem has caused and continues to cause, has not been fully acknowledged.

Ruth Bogden

"It's not so much the noise that bothers me, but more the lack of privacy. It's hard not to feel self-conscious when people are constantly critiquing my drawings as they pass by."

Observer News Briefs

National education task force meets

Educators from across the country representing institutions ranging from K-12 public school systems to universities met at NECC recently as part of a national task force designed to discuss educational quality management.

Invited schools, chosen because of their model programs, included four elementary schools highlighted in CBS's recent *Schools That Work!* broadcast. In addition, a number of two and four-year public colleges including Florida State, Oregon State, Colorado State, and Harvard Universities attended.

Also invited to attend were representatives from the United States Department of Education, the Massachusetts Department of Education, the Massachusetts Board of Regents, the American Society for Quality Control, and the Haverhill and Lawrence Public Schools Systems.

Sponsored by the National Education Quality Initiative (NEQI), the task force is designed to provide information which will assist educational institutions of all categories in managing their systems more efficiently.

Mel Silberberg, director of NECC's center for business and industry and organizer of the task force effort, said, "Using input from all institutions attending, we plan to develop a report which can be used by institutions across the country as a model for improving the services which they provide."

According to Silberberg, quality initiatives in education would include cutting waste and duplication of efforts, more effective means of measuring the success or failure of students, and more actively involving teachers in the decision-making process.

"These quality concepts have allowed American business to become more competitive in the world market," Silberberg said. "The educational institutions that attended the Dec. 4 task force also had great success by adapting quality management principles. I hope that the findings of this task force will help other educational institutions to experience this success and dramatically affect the way education is run in this country."

Free pass to Science Museum available

The Science and Technology Club has purchased a pass to the Boston Museum of Science. The pass will be available at the Bentley Library to NECC day and evening students, faculty, staff, and administration.

Science and Technology Club President Larry Kent, in notifying the Bentley Library of the pass, said, "This pass was donated by the Science and Technology Club members to you the students, faculty, and staff... it enables you and three others, family or friends, to free admission at the science museum."

During discussions with David Kelley, chairperson, division of instructional development, Kent said the mission of the club includes promoting interest in science and technology throughout the campus, and members believe the purchase of the museum pass will foster this goal.

Kelley is confident the pass will be received with great enthusiasm. "Libraries often purchase museum passes for their clientele. This is a costly item which would be unfeasible for us to purchase with the current state fiscal crisis. The purchase of the pass is an excellent use of student activity funds, for it enables the students to have access to a great Boston tradition which will enhance their appreciation of science and technology while providing them with an enjoyable experience at no cost. We are both impressed and grateful to the club for their innovative and worthwhile expenditure."

Three passes will be available at the

circulation desk in the Bentley Library: one for weekday use, one for Saturday use, and one for Sunday. The weekday pass may be borrowed at anytime during a weekday and must be returned by 9 a.m. the following day. The Saturday and Sunday passes may be borrowed on any weekday and must be returned no later than the following Monday at 9:30 p.m.

There will be a \$5 per hour late charge. Proper NECC identification and a picture ID is required to borrow the pass.

Scholarship awarded to local student

NECC recently awarded the James P. "Jake" Rurak Memorial Scholarship in the amount of \$500 to Maureen McGovern of Methuen.

The Rurak Memorial Scholarship is granted annually in recognition of academic achievement and community involvement.

The award, presented in memory of State Senator James P. Rurak, commemorates his service and contributions to the people of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts throughout his public service career. Rurak was a driving force behind the establishment of NECC in Haverhill.

McGovern, a graduate of Methuen High School in 1960, is enrolled in the liberal arts program with a concentration in social services. She is involved in the Drama Club, as a peer tutor, and as a notetaker for the Office for Students with Disabilities.

McGovern lives in Methuen with her husband, William and four children.

Allen Tye memorial child care grant given

Kim Marie Scales, liberal arts, has been awarded the first Bright Horizons Child Care Center Scholarship.

The scholarship, covering 50 percent of one full-time preschool position at the Bright Horizons Child Care Center at NECC, is donated by Bright Horizons Children's Centers, Inc., in memory of Allen Tye, formerly of Haverhill.

Tye is the late husband of Judith Tye, coordinator of the Early Childhood Education Program.

In announcing the award, Linda Mason, president of Bright Horizons, said, "The scholarship position is a small token of our respect for both Mrs. Tye and her late husband, Allen."

"Without Mrs. Tye the child care center would not be what it is today. She has been tireless in her efforts to build the center and to continually upgrade and evolve its program."

Scales lives in Methuen with her husband Edward Jr. and children, Edward III and Jessica. A 1985 graduate of Greater Lawrence Vocational Technical School, she plans to continue her education after NECC at Salem State College.

Although Bright Horizons is open to the community, applicants for the scholarship must be NECC students. The center offers full day care from 7:15 a.m. to 5:15 p.m. for children ages three months through kindergarten.

NECC professor receives endowment

Marjory Martin, professor, English dept., recently received two grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH).

The Lexington resident studied for eight weeks at Yale University in New Haven, Conn. She also worked for five weeks at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore as one of 25 participants in an Institute on *Arts and the Emergence of Aesthetics*.

The NEH grants are designed to give college faculty access to major libraries and the opportunity to network and study with prominent scholars in an effort to enhance their teaching at their own institutions.

A graduate of Northwestern University in Chicago and the University of Iowa, Martin has been teaching at NECC since 1969.

Senate president works hard to improve college

By MICHAEL B. PIERCE
Observer Staff Reporter

John Hosty wants to make a difference as president of the student senate, so he works hard to improve conditions for NECC students.

As senate chairperson, Hosty runs the meetings, recognizes people to speak, plans the discussions for the meetings and calls for votes. He doesn't vote unless a tie occurs.

The senate, however, is an advisory body, not a controlling or governing body.

"We make suggestions to the president, and he is usually very receptive to what we suggest," Hosty said.

Proposal's path: The senate has to work with other people to get its motions passed. When a motion gets passed, it goes directly to Norm Landry, dean of student affairs, for him to look over. Then, if NECC President John Dimitry approves it, it passes to the board of trustees and is voted on.

One issue the senate worked on this semester involves an increase in the student activity fee. In order to save some programs that might have been cut, the senate proposed increasing the student activity fee by one dollar per credit hour.

"We were going to cut back on the health

clinic, athletics, child care and the Office for Students with Disabilities," Hosty said.

"I didn't see that as a viable option. We have good programs here at this college, and I would really like to see them stay."

Hosty said Dimitry didn't believe the college or the state could fund these programs if student activities stopped funding them.

"This is one of the reasons why I implemented the dollar extra per credit hour increase," Hosty said. "So we can keep what we have, and add on to it."

The fee increase will generate over \$34,000.

Individual contributions: "It's not a lot from every student, but when it's all put together, it adds up to quite a bit," Hosty said.

Although the senate is only an advisory body, it does have control of student activity clubs.

"If a club has money allotted to it, and does not follow the guidelines of the constitution that it gave us, the senate can opt to relinquish their recognition," Hosty said.

"In that case, the club has no right to say that it's from NECC, or that it's representing the college, and they will not have any funding. That's the only real power the senate has."

The senate is also trying to rewrite parts of

its constitution because some of the language is vague.

Clarity needed: "You can't govern with vagueness," Hosty said. "There's too much lateral room to move around with, and argue about."

"We're all trying to argue our own points. If we don't have some guideline more specific than we have right now, we're going to waste a lot more time arguing than we need to."

Hosty wants to improve the senate for future students.

"By taking a hard look at the bylaws of the senate's constitution we're setting the foundations for a better senate in the future," he said.

After becoming a senate member, Hosty decided he wanted something more. He campaigned for president and won.

Hosty also serves on the coordinating committee of the All College Council.

Recently, Hosty was put on the ballot to become a student trustee. If he wins this election, he will have to step down from the coordinating committee.

"I have a lot of issues and energy that I can contribute," Hosty said. "I want to make a difference, I really care about this school, and I want to see the students get what is best for them."



Getting involved

C. Evans photo

JOHN HOSTY, student senate president.

Vice president hopes to address problems

By KYLE MCLAUGHLIN
Observer Staff Reporter

For Jamie Gaeta, student senate vice president, his time at NECC has been productive.

Gaeta, in his first semester at NECC, already has the added responsibility of representing the student body.

Right away he became aware of problems that made him decide to run.

Make changes: "I noticed some issues around school that were not being dealt with. I wanted to change that and do what I can to help," Gaeta said.

He is from Salem, N.H. and graduated from Salem High School last spring. He came to NECC despite the opportunity to attend some top local colleges in the state.

"I just decided to attend a community college to sort of break into college and see how it was. NECC is so close around and has the best reputation," Gaeta said.

Gaeta is studying in the Mental Health

Technology program and is very pleased with the program and its teachers.

Good worker: Steve Michaud, director of student activities works regularly with Gaeta and the rest of the senate. He likes what he sees in the vice president.

"Jamie is a pleasure to work with. He is very intelligent as well as being aggressive and enthusiastic. I'm looking forward to working with him next semester and hopefully next year," Michaud said.

As the vice president, Gaeta's responsibilities range from chairing the student election committee to approving and planning renovations in the weight room. His major role involves working alongside John Hosty, senate president, to help make major decisions on issues students face.

Satisfied colleague: George Dionne, senate program board chairman and general manager of WRAC, is delighted to work with Gaeta.

"Jamie is bending over backwards for me.



C. Evans photo

JAMIE GAETA.

He is helping a lot with all the activities we have planned. He's just a great guy to work with," Dionne said.

Gaeta favored raising student activity fees to \$4 per credit hour to help fund student activities in the spring semester. The plan passed at a recent

trustees meeting.

"I feel it's an excellent idea. If the increase is made, money can be allocated to help keep OSD (Office for Student with Disabilities) and Health Service still running. Money will also be available to offer new things to the school," Gaeta said.

Transfer plans: Depending on his academic success here, Gaeta would like to attend University of Massachusetts and study psychology. But for now Gaeta is happy at NECC and plans to run for re-election next fall.

"While I'm here I'm going to try to do as much as I can to make the school and people's opinion of the school better," Gaeta said.

Contemporary Affairs discussed in this club

By GAYLE GUEVIN
Observer Staff Reporter

The Kuwait crisis, gun control, abortion and the Seabrook power plant are some topics regularly discussed by students on campus. Since 1966, the Contemporary Affairs Club has given students the opportunity to voice their opinions.

"It's a vital organization for free speech on campus," Arthur Barlas, instructor, history and government dept., and club adviser, said. "Every idea, opinion and point is discussed."

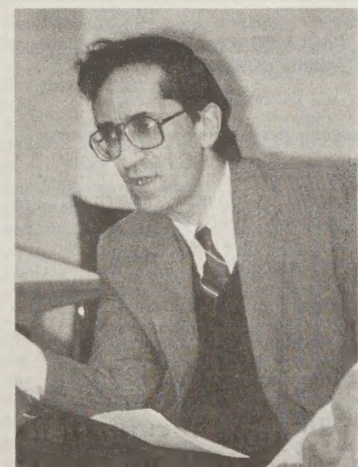
Earlier this semester the club sponsored a talk on the Persian Gulf situation. A panel of students from middle eastern backgrounds shared their own perspectives, concerns and anxieties. Barlas said they provided an interesting insight.

Aside from group discussions, the club also sponsors guest speakers with backgrounds in politics, economic and business professions.

Sponsors trips: The group sponsors two trips in the spring. In New York City, students participate in a mock U.N. session. Students are assigned a country and learn various aspects of the culture and politics.

The trip to Washington, D.C. is taken to the Student Presidential Conference, where aspect of the presidency are examined.

Barlas said it provides a great opportunity



S. Mills photo

ARTHUR BARLAS, adviser.

for students to travel and meet other students from across the country.

"A student who has a natural interest in current issues and understands the relationship between society and world will enjoy this club," Barlas said.

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Writing excellence rewarded

Students win awards for work in English Comp I, II classes

Distinguished writing awards at Northern Essex Community College for Fall 1990 were recently announced in a ceremony held in Lecture Hall A.

Salem, N.H. resident Richard Russell won the Elizabeth A. Arnold Award for writing the best essay of papers written by English Comp. I and II students this year.

Committee members Eleanor Hope-McCarthy, George Bailey, Carol Barron, and Linda Desjardins worked with committee chairperson Paula Boxer in coordinating the program over the past several months.

At the ceremony, Boxer announced the winners, who picked up their certificates from Priscilla Bellairs, English dept. chairperson. Hope-McCarthy, Barron, Desjardins, and Roland Kimball served as readers of several prize winning essays.

The following students were honored in the ceremony:

Composition I: Thomas P. Austin, Joe Bailey, Clara Berty, Paul Bellavance, Steve Bohnwagner, Andy Boyd, Sarah Brooks, Peter Carrier, Jonathan Casali, Daniel Cohen, Heather Crabb, Bill Darmody, Carl DeRubeis, Russell Dumont.

Margaret Ferrera, James Foley, Kevin S. Gearty, Rosemary Gosselin, Arthur G.

Outstanding essay

"Salem, N.H. resident Richard Russell won the Elizabeth A. Arnold Award for writing the best essay of papers..."

Grenier, James W. Judkins, Jr., Lance W. Lancey, Nicole McLanson, Dominic Nicolo, Christine Olivier, Matthew Pearson, Tracy Pelletier, Jeff Petit-Bois.

Sandra Petro, Donna Picone, David Robinson, Richard Russell, Deena Lewis Schorman, Helen D. Sheehan, Robin Stolarz, William H. Stratton, Kerrie Timmons, Stacy Tuccolo, Melisa Withed, Daniel Graf, Shawn Malenfant.

Composition II: Matt Belfiore, Mary Ann Bergeron, Mark Chabot, Melissa B. Georgopolis, Gus Medietta, Andrea Messina, Barbara Morrison, Kelly Mueller, Pamela O'Connor, Johanne Ouellet, Joe Pomoroy, Katherine Proano, Rochelle Wolf and Marie Yvette Lalonde.



RICHARD RUSSELL receives the Elizabeth A. Arnold award from Paula Boxer, writing awards committee chairperson. C. Evans photo

Student essay remembers close friend

By RICHARD RUSSELL
Guest Contributor

There was a time not long ago when I needed a god to follow. It was around that time a certain Walter Gillis walked into my life. The time: the beginning of seventh grade. The place: an upper floor classroom in an old fashioned schoolhouse. The dominant impression: Holy Christ.

The day I saw Wally for the first time I felt an attraction, as if we were already friends. There was no period of courtship, no months wasted establishing a friendship; it was instantaneous. We fell in together. It would change my life.

Never noticed: There is no picture in my mind when I close my eyes and think of Wally. I was never much concerned with Wally's looks or appearance, and therefore never took notice. Instead, the things we did together dominate. Computer telecommunications, school reports on witchcraft and science, long walks through the forest, be it green or white, and even periods of separate isolation — all this I remember as Wally. Others might say that he was goofy, his sandy blond hair a tousled mess upon his head, ears still visible on the sides like small radar cones. He walked with a hop, a weird grin spread from cheek to cheek. As if to hide his strangeness somehow, he dressed sharply in fine sporty clothes with the leather to match.

His image coalesces through time, slowly appearing from the mist, until his present visage passes into focus, but then out again as the many faces of Wally form into one blurred vision. There is the real Wally, intellectual and philosophical, but then there is the fool — as well as the maniac. Rather than a schizophrenic, Wally is an all-encompassing being, an infiniteness embodied, cruelly imprisoned in flesh.

Facing the world: Wally, a loner by nature, is an antisocial creature forced to interact in a social world. He has developed many facets of his character in defense, the most anybody ever seeing shallow and lifeless. Not many see beyond the mask he wears every day. As some women put on make-up to face the world, Wally physically alters his appearance before the world faces him. He wears a smile, genuine down to the twinkle in his eye framed in wrinkles at the corners. He straightens his body, seeming tense under his clothes, uncomfortable with the gazes cast his way. This is where the fool comes into play. This role he plays well, nodding humbly to life, preferring to take the problems on his own

turf. He will yield to avoid confrontations, keeping to himself as much as possible. But it seems that people like to take advantage of this character. As the fool gets pushed closer and a closer to the edge, the smile falls first from his eye and then the dimples disappear, until finally, when the fool has been pushed too far, he rebels maniacally, often violently. I understand this Wally, even if others limp away from his red-faced, fist-shaking anger, leaving him to stand steaming, shoulders raised almost beside his trembling head.

The Wally I prefer to remember is characterized by the interest in his eyes and the wonder in his tone. The best example which I can provide of Wally is my memory of one rainy evening when he and I had decided to go for a walk up to the field . . .

Weeding out: It was a Saturday night, somewhat stormy, and Wally and I were sitting around like lumps-on-logs with little to do. He sat tall, straight, with a book opened on his lap and his hand caressing his chin. He was a modified, living example of the famous sculpture, *The Thinker*, and as such exemplified the mood for that night. His hair was messed up from running his hands through it in thought, often tugging at some tuft as if it would help him to weed out some philosophical problem he was battling in his head. As he read, his eyes would stop moving and become unfocused, slightly demonic in the dim shadows while he paused to ponder a new thought. Then he might look up and ask me if I believed that God was a sinner by his own definition, or if I thought it was possible to live the simple life in today's Hell.

Reflected thoughts: Usually our thoughts coincided and his face would turn from a questioning contortion into a soft, blank canvas which reflected any thought he chose to paint. He could then be happy, sad, angry, or even surprised. Or he would remain blank, and then I would know he was really into himself and his inner metaphysical world. This time, he stayed there but wanted to take me there as well.

"C'mon, let's go," he said almost silently, little louder than a whisper as he stood, tall, lithe, and cat-like. He was framed in shadow with the light coming from the outer room playing more along his face as he turned. I knew better than to ask where we might be going so I just followed him out the door. He disappeared into the dark of the night, now just a voice cut by rain and rustling leaves under foot. His dark clothes and his now dark, wet hair were barely visible in the night as we trotted into the swamp, ankle-high in



PAULA BOXER announces winners at awards ceremony. C. Evans photo

mud and calf high in water.

Wally's world: Shortly after we emerged in a field and found the perfect spot. Kneeling in traditional Japanese seiza, I was now in Wally's World, the most calm, peaceful place ever. This was not simply a field in the middle of the forest under a luminescent sky, the rain clouds backlit by the full moon. It was an extension of Wally, an extension of the God I had come to worship as my own example for life.

I reached out to feel him, to make sure he was truly there. His arms were wet, his black shirt soaked, cold in the chill evening. From what I could make out of his face, it was still a blank canvas. His eyes were open, but as soon as I noticed this, he said that I should close my eyes and smell the night, that there was nothing that was here that I could not feel or hear or smell. So I did. The rain had a cool cleanness to it on the backs of my hands, but it was warm on my clothes, and hot as it rolled from my hair down my face. Its smell was pure and mixed with that of the grass and the pine trees around us. I felt each raindrop as it fell through the air. I felt each drop hit the earth. I felt each drop as it hit myself. Then I felt something that frightened me as I let go to

Richard Russell

"I understand this Wally, even if others limp away from his red-faced, fist-shaking anger, leaving him to stand steaming, shoulders raised almost beside his trembling head."

my senses. I felt the world as Wally felt it. It was no longer my body's senses experiencing this, it was Wally's.

Scribbled notebook: I sat there thinking the thoughts I had read in his private notebook, scribbled in some ancient tongue, barely translatable. I sat there feeling the cosmic winds of his soul blow through me: I felt his heart, beating cold in my chest, unmoving, uncaring, frighteningly closed to the world. It was this feeling that offered comfort to the whole situation. I let it fill me. This is what I admired most in Wally. I wanted it.

I opened my eyes to see Wally sitting across from me, his eyes vacant, unblinking. He breathed rhythmically, almost mechanically. His shoulders were squared and pulled back, a frame for his sopping garments. His hands were on his thighs and little clouds of steam rose from the fingers. I looked up. Although I could not see the stars, I could feel the pull of each and I knew their individual significance. When I looked back down, his eyes were closed, but they quickly opened once more. His torso rose as his legs unfolded beneath him and I was startled to find myself standing as well. I closed my eyes and could feel his strength. I let it wash over me, guide me. My feet moved beneath me and soon felt the sensation of cold mud again in my shoes.

Free heart: Whenever I remember Wally, I find myself meditating on that sensation of mud and water and contrast it with the clean rain that we experienced in the field. The bogging muck of my soul, thick with compassion and love, juxtaposed with the slick freedom of the rain that is Wally's free heart which cleansed me that night; from these sensations spring the memories of that evening reinstalling the all-encompassing infiniteness that is Wally.

It happened one summer

By LANCE C. LANCEY
Guest Contributor

It was a beautiful summer morning. My parents, my brother and I had gathered for breakfast. It was Saturday and the family had been invited to a pool party/cookout at Marty's house. Marty was a close friend of the family and had known my parents for years. These get togethers (with lots of drinking and horsing around) were always a good time.

We arrived around noon, and as was customary at such events, began indulging in a few cocktails before we were to eat. After the usual picnic fare of hot dogs and hamburgers, we returned to drinking in combination with an occasional dip in the pool.

Something extra: It was now around 3 in the afternoon and we were all feeling pretty buzzed. My father said, "Marty, why don't we take your boat out for an afternoon ride." "Sure, and why don't we take a little something with us for the ride," Marty replied as he lifted a cooler. Loading the boat with more than enough booze for the ride, we hitched up the boat and trailer to Marty's truck. Off we went, Marty, his neighbor, my father and I.

My father and I had a unique relationship. We were more like best friends than father and son. We would often go out together on a Friday or Saturday night, spend the evening at the local bar getting loaded and screwing around.

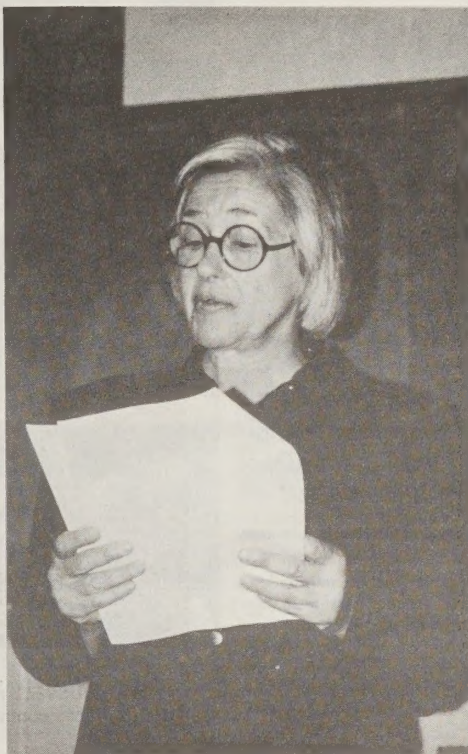
Soon we arrived at the marina. We unloaded the boat. It was a very comfortable boat with plenty of room and a cabin underneath containing a bathroom, a sink and a bed.

Pleasant afternoon: Before long we were on our way down river. The ride out to the ocean was very pleasant and relaxing. We had numerous drinks and were just sitting back, enjoying the ride. After going two or three miles out into the ocean, we turned and headed back.

By now we were all pretty well intoxicated. At this point my father probably couldn't have stood up on dry land. He was more drunk than myself or the other two aboard. He was falling all over the boat and from one of these falls he got a small cut on his head. I suggested that he go below and lie down. He refused, saying, "You can't make me do anything I don't want to do." Occasionally, when my father drank too much, he could get very stubborn, even mean. I told him, "Go under and lie down before you hurt yourself." He replied, "I ought to kick your ass." I assured him that he was in no shape to kick anyone's ass, so he reluctantly went below, and soon was our cold.

Lost keys: Eventually we arrived back at the marina, only to find that Marty had, at some point in our journey, lost the keys to his truck. Not knowing what else to do, we went further up river and docked at a small pub on the river's edge. The dock was one of those free floating docks that tip up if you stand on one side of it.

Marty went in to call his wife and have her bring us a spare set of keys for the truck. He returned in minutes and said, "Keys won't be here for 20 minutes or so, why don't we go in and have a drink while we wait." So I checked on my father, who was still sound asleep in the boat's cabin, and we went in



C. Evans photo
ELEANOR HOPE-MCCARTHY reads an essay at the writing awards ceremony held in Lecture Hall A.

to the pub, sat down and ordered a round of drinks.

Shortly thereafter a woman came running in, screaming there was a man in the river. A lump came into my throat. I knew instantly who it was. I ran out of the pub and down the ramp to the dock where the boat was still tied.

Instant terror: I saw nothing. Then I heard my father's voice calling my name, but in the darkness, I couldn't see him. The current had carried him a couple hundred yards up river. I knew it was impossible for me to swim there. I ran along the river's edge until, from the sound of his voice, I figured I was as close as I could get to him without entering the river. I began yelling, "Swim towards shore, go with the current." But as I heard him scream my name, each time, I could sense the increase terror in his voice.

My first thought was to dive in and go help him, but I knew that with my clothes on I would barely be able to swim myself. I frantically stripped naked, dove into the dark murky water,

and began swimming towards his voice. I was still unafraid, and while swimming, thought laughingly about the brownie points I would receive for having to swim naked out into the river to save him. I swam in the darkness for two or three minutes before I could see him.

Strong current: His arms were flailing and grasping for air. I now realized that he was in serious trouble. I dropped my head into the water and swam as hard as I could. I stopped every minute or so to get him in my sight. Fifty feet away, then 40, I stopped to spot him again. The current was very strong and he seemed to be in a different place each time I stopped to spot him.

Now 25 feet away, my father disappeared. I swam hard until I figured I was at the spot where he had gone under. My heart now pounding, I began diving into the darkness, reaching, hoping to get a hold of him. After several attempts I suddenly realized what had happened. My father had drowned.

By this time Marty had made his way up river in the boat, and was trying to locate my father or me. He spotted me and drove over. All I could feel at this point was complete and total anger at my father. It was as if something or someone had stolen something very dear to me.

I held to the side of the boat screaming and punching the side of it until I was exhausted. Now a calmness, probably shock, came over me. I climbed into the boat, wrapped myself in a blanket and sat down, frozen in disbelief.

Emotionally drained: Now as the police, ambulances and coast guard arrived, I felt totally drained of all emotion and energy. I was brought to shore, quickly questioned by the police and taken to the hospital.

My mother was then called and told there had been an accident, and that I was there. She knew nothing at the time of my father's death, and when she arrived I would be the one who would have to tell her. What would I say to her? A bombardment of feelings rushed through my body. Why couldn't I have gotten to him in time? If only I had done something different he might still be alive! When my mother arrived, she took one look at me and sensed what had happened. She seemed to put her thoughts into helping me cope, I imagine to avoid her own feelings of pain and loss. After getting calmed down, my mother brought me home.

I went straight to the couch and to escape it all, went to sleep. Over the next three days people, mostly family and close friends, were stopping by to give their condolences. If I awoke at all, it was only to look around the room, and then I would go quickly back to sleep. In my sleep there were no feelings of guilt, there was no heartache.

On the fourth day I awoke and simply could not sleep any longer. After some coaxing by a friend, I was persuaded to leave the house. I remember thinking that the entire world had changed. As we drove around I was astonished to find that almost nothing had changed. People were still doing what they had always done, stores were still open for business. It was as if it had never happened. This gave me an eerie feeling; I realized that I had lost so much, but to the rest of the world, it was just another day.

Student writes of 'secret place within me'

By SANDRA PETRO
Guest Contributor

I am a child in prison — locked in a world of chaos and loneliness. The people outside of my bars, those on whom I depend for my very existence, have constructed these walls of darkness surrounding me. My only companions are confusion, emptiness, coldness, sadness; all a result of years of neglect and abuse. My cries of longing to break out echo from this empty place, heard only by the child who suffers.

Thrashing wildly about in this black void, I notice a dim light shining from an unexplored corner. Slowly I creep closer, daring to hope that this beacon of light is an exit. I approach this glowing orb cautiously, for experience has taught me that things are not always what they seem. Peering into the light, I see pages filled with words that bring forth images of new and exciting places I never dreamed existed. The people in these places are calling to me, silently at first, then loudly, inviting me to enter their world and visit with them.

Vision of loveliness: Fearfully, reluctantly, I place one foot into the light, then another, and am greeted warmly by a smiling young girl. She is the same age as I am, with shiny brown hair and king blue eyes, dressed in clothes that are strangely familiar to me.

Gently taking my hand, she tells me that this is a safe place, and I am free to wander wherever I want. As she speaks these words, I look over my shoulder and see the cold blackness of my prison fading in the distance. I laugh delightedly at the realization that I have escaped!

Sandra Petro

"Thrashing wildly about in this black void, I notice a dim light shining from an unexplored corner."

The haven in which I find myself is filled with brilliant sunshine and deep blue skies. The peaceful silence of this lovely world is interrupted by the pleasing sound of birds perched in a tree next to me. A warm breeze gently caresses my face, and I drink in the faint smell of lilacs that are growing in wild abandon around me. My newly-found friend leads me around this magical land, and I marvel at the many pathways I find stretching before me. I am overwhelmed and cannot decide which route to explore first, so my friend chooses for me. The name of the path, *Little Women*, is crudely lettered on a signpost found at the entrance.

Another era: As I begin my adventure, I meet an enchanting family of four sisters: Jo, Beth, Amy, and Meg March, who will accompany me on my journey. Unlike my friends and I, they are dressed in clothes that speak of another time; flowing skirts that rustle as they walk, stiffly starched blouses, and eyelet lace collars. They are beautiful to look at, and vibrant with life. The path I travel with them is filled with a wide range of

emotions: happiness, excitement, sadness, and anger.

I laugh with joy as I share their triumphs in life, and weep with them in shared pain over their losses and defeats. When we finally reach the end of the path, I embrace each of them fondly and bid them goodbye. It is a sad parting, but I know the direction to take should I ever find myself longing for their company.

Pausing to reflect on the heart-warming journey that I have just completed, I am interrupted by the touch of icy-cold fingers

reaching out for me from my cell. Shivering, I face that black hole and know my escape was only temporary. Screaming in protest, I am dragged back into the frigid emptiness of reality; back to my dreary companions of doom and darkness.

I am, however, reassured by that tiny glowing light tucked away in the corner of my prison. A secret smile of satisfaction rests briefly upon my face, and I listen to the words of my newly found friend. She speaks from a secret place within me, and we gleefully plan our next escape!

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Transfer Day draws many

Fifty-four colleges woo students

By STEVE GIGLIO
Observer Staff Reporter

Over 50 representatives from area colleges recently attended Transfer College Day to recruit new students.

Betty Coyne, director of counseling and industry career advising, said, "It was really beneficial to the students; they were able to have their questions answered and to get a lot of material from different colleges."

Unlike a larger school's fairs with colleges attending from across the country, NECC invited only local colleges.

Target schools: "We decided to limit it to 54 schools. Any more colleges than that would be too overwhelming," Coyne said. "About 90 percent of our students tend to stay locally, so we target the schools where students are interested."

Participating colleges included Harvard, Emerson, Merrimack, Amherst, Wentworth Institute of Technology and Salem State.

Wendy Metz, Harvard representative said, "We have had some NECC students in the past, but we haven't had that many applicants in recent years."

Debroah Hollaway, UNH representative, advised students to "Take a broad selection of courses in arts and humanities, social sciences, math, etc. Achieve B grades and complete a full year and you'll do fine."

Jen Digilio, mental health major, plans to transfer to Plymouth State College.

Representatives impressed

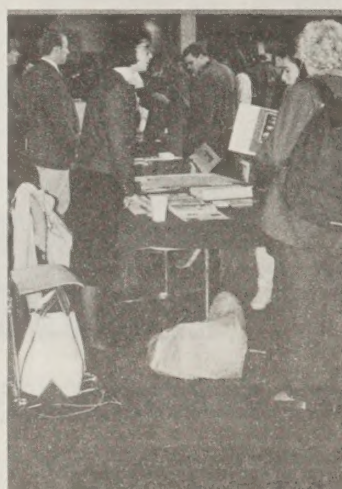
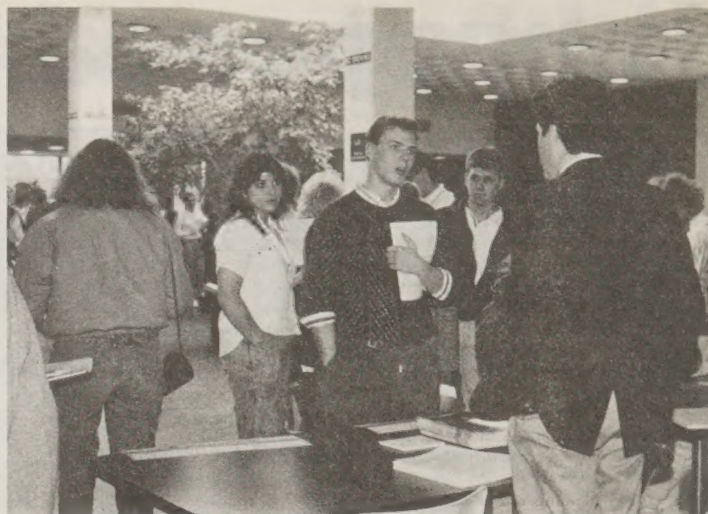
"The feedback I received from all the colleges was very positive," Coyne said. "They thought that the students were all well informed and serious about the transfer process."

"I've done research before transfer day and when I looked around, Plymouth State had the program I wanted," she said.

Event evaluated: After the day finished, representatives were asked to evaluate the event, rating such categories as planning and organization, accommodations and student participation.

"The feedback I received from all the colleges was very positive," Coyne said. "They thought that the students were all well informed and serious about the transfer process."

Students interested in more information should contact Coyne in B-204, or call (508) 374-3800.



Many questions on Transfer Day

J. Benoit photos
AREA COLLEGE representatives answer students' questions about the transfer process.

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Peace on Earth, good will towards men

Message reported by Bethlehem shepherds

In 1990 the world waits once more for headlines from the Middle East, as troops from many nations spend the holiday season in combat readiness. What about the promise of peace?

Even as we pray for the situation in the Persian Gulf region, we take joy in the legacy of peace Jesus left for those who follow Him. "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid." John 14:27.

We among the faculty and staff have found His words to be true. Our inner war with God is over, and we find ourselves, not broken and defeated, but forgiven, made whole. We invite you to share the "peace that passes understanding" promised to those who follow Jesus.

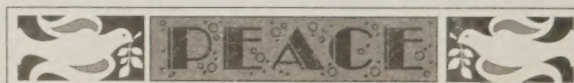
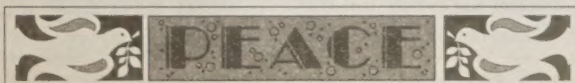
As violence escalates and our world seems on the point of disintegration—morally, socially, economically—the peace and hope that Jesus embodies rises as a rational alternative. Wise men seek him still.

We wish one and all a blessed holiday season.

Charles Adie	Mathematics
Janice Alestock	Graphics
Walter Drescher	Mathematics
Bernadine Festo	Math, Science & Technology, Business
Ed Fice	Graphics
James Gustafson	Philosophy
Ken Holden	Natural Science
Roland Kimball	English

Jillian Knowles
Anastasia Loftus
John Mason
Laurie Perkins
Priscilla Pope
Ed Spinney
Elizabeth Wilcoxson

Instructional Development
Office for Students with
Disabilities
Natural Science
Comptroller's Office
Financial Aid
Natural Science
History & Government



One College Concept debated

By JENNIFER FORZESE
Observer Staff Reporter

A recent forum did little to dispel confusion remaining about the One College Concept. Students, faculty and staff differ on how successful the concept is and how to best implement it.

According to the Master Plan developed by NECC, each of these functions: research, development, publication, public information and alumni relations are carried out in a manner fully consistent with a one college philosophy.

John Dimitry, NECC president, said, "Eighty percent of the time the concept works. It's difficult to make it work because of the financial system. There are two radically different systems of funding. But we are trying to treat everyone the same."

Francis Champoux, professor, dept. of natural science, said, "I'm a little confused as to what the One College Concept is. We can look at it simplistically or at the diversity of the university."

Educational programs: Under the Master Plan, NECC intends to continue with the evaluation and development of programs, the promotion of basic skills and general education, and the improvement of academic advising.

Agreements currently existing with other institutions will be reviewed and updated. These include cooperative education, internships, and international studies.

For the last four years Champoux has been involved with the teaching in the AT&T program. This came about not voluntarily, but because AT&T needed these courses.

"We have offered just about everything in both programs," Champoux said. "We have to start looking at the services provided. In coordinating both day and evening class, I think we provide everything a student at this college could get. I think we provided a lot because they asked for it. NECC would provide any services to a group because we had the possibility of getting extra help or offering any other services the students wanted."

College image: The primary goal is to project a vital one college image.

Katherine Rodger, Lawrence campus director, said, "There is a difference between services offered at the colleges. Much of the services offered at the Haverhill campus are not in place for the Lawrence students. There is a 12 mile separation between the Lawrence and Haverhill faculty, and I do not see how satisfactorily this can be bridged."

Berky Ray, a student senator representing the Lawrence campus, said, "We have not been able to get student identification cards. If a Lawrence student comes here to use the activity center or the library without a card, he or she can be thrown out."

Dimitry said, "Anyone can make use of the

library. I have never heard of this being a problem. A lot of students don't even pick up their student identification cards."

Champoux said, "We have to keep focusing on the idea that we are servicing different groups."

Shuttle bus: Another issue brought up involves starting a shuttle bus from Lawrence to Haverhill.

Dimitry said, "The bus service we have now is subsidized by the federal and state government. It deserves serious consideration, but I would rather stick with the established public transportation."

Champoux said, "If we provide for one, we must provide for all."

Anne Hussey, a second year nursing student, said, "The One College Concept is one name under one roof. It fills the needs of the community, everyone in the community, not just the student fresh out of high school. Our educational programs and services have to be extremely diverse, and they are."

The Office of Continuing Education and Community Services' major strength for the Master Plan is its leadership in implementing the One College Concept as fully as possible.

John Peroni, dean of continuing education and community services, said, "It isn't hard to describe the concept. It's very simple, we're all in this together. The problem is, it doesn't work that easily."

Dimitry said, "I would like to radically change what's going on in Lawrence. We have terrible facilities. We're scattered in four different locations. There is poor parking. The sites can only be used at certain times of the day and we can only use some parts of the building."

Successful concept: Rodger said, "I do believe NECC has succeeded in this concept, if you consider trying to maintain equal academic integration across the board and the entire institution."

"We have no say over the financial situation as to how the state is set up," Peroni said about DCE. "By law, we must operate at no cost to the Commonwealth. What we tried to do around 1977 is implement the One College Concept. We have only one registrar's office and bursar's office instead of two, to handle all students."

"Faculty that teach only at continuing education clearly do not have the involvement in the fabric of the institution that we would like. Continuing Ed. students are not as involved as we would like. They come here, take classes and hopefully they have quality faculty, services and education. But basically they are in and out," Peroni said.

Joseph Rizzo, associate professor, department of behavioral science and former local union president, said, "In 1987, when the Division of Continuing Education (DCE), was unionizing, the State Labor Commission declared it as a separate employer because of different sources in funding. Anyone teaching

The NECC RN program has a very good reputation. John R. Dimitry, NECC president, is very pleased with the program.

"We're very pleased with the success of our RN graduates, especially when you consider that they are taking the same national exam as graduates of four year nursing programs," he said.

Competitive program: Press said a lot of students are turned away because there are such a large number of applicants. Members of the Nursing Dept. make the decision on who will get into the program. Students turned away from the RN program for reasons other than overbooked classes are encouraged to look into the Licensed Practical Nursing (LPN) program.

"If we see someone who wants to come into nursing but may not be very successful in our RN program, we might suggest they look into our LPN program," Press said.

Upon graduating, LPN students must also pass a national licensing exam to acquire a certificate in practical nursing.

After graduation, nursing students work in different areas.

"Some of our students work in hospitals,



A little help from my friends

J. Benoit photo

PAUL LOGAN, Carmen Falcon, John Collins and Patria Rojas take a little time to study chemistry as exam week approaches.

in the day and at night has two jobs.

Protect jobs: "In a way we are taking advantage of the DCE students to protect day jobs and day students. In DCE negotiations we tried to simulate a work environment that was the same as the day. This was rejected."

He said a grievance is being filed because anyone teaching day division is limited to the number of courses taught at night. But someone who teaches at Haverhill public schools, AT&T or Raytheon isn't limited.

"This doesn't sound like a one college concept," Rizzo said.

Peroni said, "I think the quality of courses will always vary. There will always be a faculty member that makes the comment, 'Night students are better than day students,' or 'Night students are too overburdened.' One question is, is the faculty doing his or her job?"

DCE problem: "In terms of faculty advising in a formal structure, it's a very big problem in Continuing Ed. I'm not sure we will have a satisfactory answer in the near future," Peroni said.

Susan Ziemba, curriculum specialist for NECC, said, "A one college concept can be accomplished by putting our students first and work as a family. If we all had a feeling that we are in this together, I think that would help in moving us to the next step. I'm pretty

proud of what we've accomplished and try to improve."

Peroni said, "Some of the things we have to work at will be ongoing. The other aspect is tuition. There's not much choice at this, but it looks as if the tuition is becoming more and more in line."

State subsidized: Donald Pailles, professor for the department of mathematics at NECC, said, "Day students are subsidized by the state. I think there is an increased amount of pressure to do away with the law that separates us (day and night division). If we want to see a one college concept, this has to occur. It's going to happen, and I think we should support it."

There are five goals to the mission and goals statement of the Master Plan:

- ☐ access of a pension;
- ☐ educational excellence;
- ☐ a multi-campus participatory government and community;
- ☐ the Presidents Office and Master Plan's goal, through a consistent projection in a variety of media, will give a vital one college institutional image;

☐ the Dean of Student Affairs one college objective is to continue improvement of the college admissions, registration, counseling, industry and career advising, job placement, disabled and other services to students.

Nursing program scores well on nat'l tests

By CHRIS TATOYIAN
Observer Staff Reporter

NECC Registered Nursing graduates passed their national examinations with flying colors.

Ninety-seven percent of the students passed the National Licenser Exam for Registered Nurses. The average for Massachusetts 1990 Nursing grads was 90 percent, according to figures released by the Mass. Board of Registered Nurses.

NECC offers two programs leading to a Registered Nursing degree: a two year day program for full time students, and a two and a half year evening program for DCE students.

Off-campus training: The nursing classes include two class days and two clinical days when student go to different hospitals.

Jeannine Press, program instructor, said, "The students rotate into different hospitals with different instructors to get a variety of experience."

The program consists of general studies courses with four courses in nursing, which can only be taken one per semester.

"Most of the nursing students here transfer out of liberal arts," Press said.

others work in doctors offices, and others in nursing homes," Press said. "A lot of the RN students transfer to a four year school. A lot of my students go on to get their bachelor's degree, which then opens up a lot of avenues for them."

Pay scale: Press said average wages are about \$12 an hour for a licensed RN.

"It all depends on where you work. The closer to Boston you get, the more money you usually make," she said.

NECC nursing faculty were not surprised at the percentage of students passing the licenser exam.

"We have always had good results, so it was not a real surprise," Press said. "We have had 90 to 97 percent, and even 100 percent passing on the license exam."

Press feels the program's good reputation assures students they will get a good education.

The national exam is given twice a year.

Comprehensive exam: "They give you a situation and ask you particular questions about that situation. Some areas are strictly recall on specific things. Others are just judgment questions," Press said.

The 1990 graduates were the 20th class to

Jeannine Press

"We have always had good results, so it was not a real surprise. We have had 90 to 97 percent, and even 100 percent passing on the license exam."

graduate from the RN program.

Kristine Larson, who plans to graduate in May 91, says she enjoyed the program.

"The program was a lot of hard work, but I enjoyed it because I know all the hard work will be worth it," she said.

Larson also pointed out how much work must be put into the program.

"People think because you only take one class per semester it's easy, when that one class ends up taking up my whole week," Larson said.

For more information about the program contact the Admissions Office at (508) 374-3600.



Educational opportunity

C. Evans photo
DEBBIE SCIRE, co-op program director (top), answers students' questions about cooperative education.
LISA TISDALE (right), co-op coordinator.



For extra job edge co-op can help out

By GAYLE GUEVIN
Observer Staff Reporter

Co-op students receive more than an extra edge in today's job market. They gain valuable knowledge outside the classroom and get paid for it, too.

One example, business management major, Patricia Corey, is employed by Lawrence General Hospital as a patient accounts representative. Ever since Corey implemented Co-op into her 40-hour work week, her accomplishments have been outstanding.

What began as a routine clerical position is now challenging. By taking on new responsibilities, she has a chance to demonstrate new ideas, aid in decision making and effectively present her output in office meetings. Corey's hard work is paying off, and her employer is looking to promote her. She says Co-op has been very helpful.

Job insight: "I think Co-op gives you a chance to prove yourself worthy to your employer," Corey said. "It allows you to have insight into your job."

Now in her third semester, she would like to continue at her present job and eventually work towards a bachelor's degree in business management.

Cooperative Education at NECC is a parallel program where students work while they attend school. The Co-op office functions as a support center that closely guides students in preparing resumes, one to one counseling, and access to informational resources.

Academic credit is awarded if students meet the requirements. A paid position must hold 180 hours and an unpaid 140. Students have to take the initiative to find a job matching their field of study.

Assigned co-op coordinators work with the co-op office and students. Their role is to advise and check out work sites.

"This opportunity gives students a vast amount of learning experiences," Denise Trainor, Co-op coordinator, said.

Personal input: Students explore career fields by giving personal input on their own accomplishments with a self-evaluation form and the opportunity to analyze their experience in a reflection paper.

"It's a tremendous way students gain

Observer Profile

self-confidence," Trainor said.

Students also explore workshops and professional seminars related to resume writing and interviewing techniques. It's mandatory for students to attend one workshop and professional seminar; however, it's suggested that students participate in more.

Work force: "I think it's an excellent way to assist them in entering the work force," Trainor said.

Keith Bonneau, Northeast Medical Archives, said, "I have been completely satisfied with the NECC Co-op program and hope to work with it more in the future."

Jodi D'urso, Lt. Governor's Office, said, "Very enthusiastic, industrious hard worker. I have been pleased to work with him on this course as it has improved his value as an employee."

According to the Cooperative Education Office, 65 percent of students in the program represent business majors, 31 percent are liberal arts and four percent belong to math, science and technology. Of the 146 students enrolled in 1989-1990, 113 students were females, 33 males and 14 percent were minorities.

Patricia Corey, co-op student

"I think Co-op gives you a chance to prove yourself worthy to your employer."

"It allows you to have insight into your job."

Co-op program teaches skills

Students learn many things on job

By JOHN FACELLA
Observer Staff Reporter

Cooperative Education allows NECC students to take knowledge from classroom and apply it to a working environment in a specialized field.

Angela Figueroa, a Co-op adviser for six years, has been pleased with the program's progress this semester.

"This semester has been very successful. The students have been getting very good jobs and seem to be happy with them. Students are learning a great deal," she said.

Employers have nothing but praise for the program, according to Figueroa.

"When I go on and do site visits, I'm getting positive reports on students' performances from their employers," she said.

Appropriate program: Getting involved with Cooperative Education is fairly simple.

"Students come into the Co-op Office and if they have a job, they explain to Debbie Scire (Co-op program director) what kind of job it is. Debbie then determines whether or not the job is appropriate for the student's program.

"If the student doesn't have a job, once we know the student's interest in Co-op, we'll start looking for a job for that student. The student registers [for Co-op Education I] on their registration form, so we know the student is in the program," Figueroa said.

Students' benefits from the Co-op program begin to surface quickly.

Students' work: "Students are given many responsibilities. Some of them practically run the offices. It also gives the employer the chance to see the student at work, and then they [employers] offer them full-time jobs as a result of their Co-op experience. It looks very good on a resume.

"When you graduate not only does the student have an academic degree, but also supervised work experience," she said.

The Co-op program offered an Information Day on Wednesday, Dec. 5, in the Library Conference Center. This forum gave student interested in Co-op the opportunity to meet current Co-op students and their employers. A question-answer period was also held for students and the panel.

Students are currently working Co-op in the following areas:

Business Management: Wayne April, Lena's Seafood; Jennifer Aumais, Residence Inn, Marriott; David Bissell, Vernon Martin

Realty; Heather Cahalane, Stella's Place; Darlene Choquette, Casa Vecchia; Maryann Collins, Nixdorf Computers; Lisa Feole, Shawmut Arlington Trust; Donna Gallo, J.D. Morgan's; James Guides, Jackson Lumber; Shirley Jones, McDonald's; Susan Kenney, Lowell Hilton; Mary Landord, Kid's Port, U.S.A.; Leslie Maguire, First Essex Bank; Gladys Nieves, Andover Bank; Nicole Nionakis, Jimmy's II Restaurant; Kirsten Pearlless, Noble Broadcast Group; Karyn Poshpeck, Family Bank; Kerry Riley, D'Angelo Sandwich Shop; Pamela Soucie, Michael's Harborside; Kelley Sullivan, Rave; Shannon Wenz, Marriott Hotel.

Secretarial: Ekaterini Athanasatos, Whittier Travel; Maris Bergeron, Essex County Travel; Lesley DeSantis, Provident Institution for Savings Bank; Stacy Descoteaux, Family Bank; Kathy Gardella, Sun & Fun Travel; Mona Grandmaison, Atlantis Travel; Gloria Hernandez, NECC Payroll; Leanne Howlett, Shaw's; Diane Malenfant, Libby & Parker Architects; Krista Spencer, Londonderry Benson's Lumber & Hardware; Maryann Unterseher, Tallman Eye & Associates.

Liberal Arts: Mark Boucher, Elder Affairs; Christopher Bradley, Amesbury School System; Brian Burke, Jontech, Inc.; Elvy Hawbaker, NECC Gallaudet; Cheryl Kovalcin, Haverhill District Court; Claire Nasser, Holy Family Hospital; Kathy Riley, Lawrence Savings Bank; Kerry Walsh, Arlington School.

Physical Education: David Hoffman, Leonard Elementary School; Barbara Lippold, True Martial Arts Academy.

Computer Technology: Mansour Khani, NECC Bentley Library; Tom Tarness, Wetteran; Tracey Trask, Anna Jacques Hospital; Viola Vercado, NECC Computer Room.

Commercial Art: Lynn Garvey, Charette; John Green, Arlington School; Jody Landers, NECC Publications; Linda Maddox, Merrimack College; Ann MacLean, Skol Corporation.

Paralegal: Kristen Bonfilio, Kinson & Wallace Law Firm; Heidi Porter, NECC Paralegal Research.

DCE: Business Management: Patricia Coray, Lawrence General Hospital.

Registration for the upcoming spring semester is approaching rapidly. Questions may be directed to the Office of Cooperative Education at 374-3722 in B-320.

Students like positions in work study program

By GAYLE GUEVIN
Observer Staff Reporter

Working at the Bentley Library makes Allanah Shoner happy. She enjoys her job as librarian assistant while participating in the College Work-Study (CWS) has also provided her a source of income.

"It helps me live," Shoner said. "I couldn't get to and from school without it."

A drug and alcohol/paralegal major, she works between 10 to 15 hours a week while attending school.

Looking around: Richard Pastor, director of financial aid, believes the high unemployment rate may be a contributing cause as to why students are looking around campus for work.

"This fall, there's certainly been a high demand for work-study than ever before," Pastor said. "Three years ago we were trying to get people working; now there's a long waiting list. More people are in financial need. It's an alternative they have."

The CWS provides financial assistance to students by offering the alternative of earning money instead of taking out loans. The student benefits because educational expenses are relieved as they gain work experience.

Student interviews: Joan Santeusano, a part-time CWS coordinator, conducts student interviews, matches jobs, evaluates skills and schedules office hours.

"They can use this as a means to work in a job right here on campus," Santeusano said. "By fitting work around class hours they also get meaningful work experience."

CWS students fill positions in clerical, data entry, mailroom and maintenance fields.

Salary runs at \$5, \$5.25 and \$5.50, depending on seniority and job type.

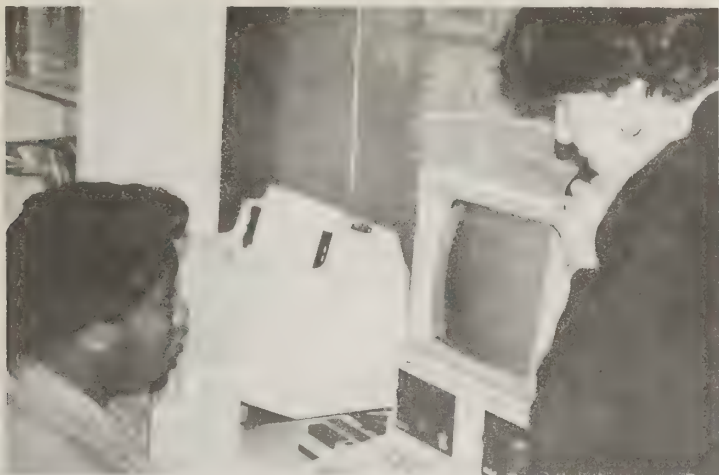
Work force: Sheila Krim, director of publications, said the students are expected to function as they would in the work force.

"This is a skills office and a busy one," Krim said. "The students are very valuable to the staff because they're always a help."

Krim says the students learn skills faster than they can select projects for them.

Students can fill positions in payroll, the Bursar's Office, Math Center and other departments.

To check eligibility, students need to submit a Financial Aid Form. It's recommended to apply before the beginning of the semester. To work during the summer session, a second form should be filled out by mid-March.



Chris Evans photos

ACADEMIC SUPPORT Center technical assistant Mary Roche, right, assists NECC student Bettie Harper.

Gulf crisis makes students nervous about their future

By MATT MCGRATH
Observer Staff Reporter

The Persian Gulf crisis grows more distressing everyday as war becomes increasingly imminent on college campuses.

Many students at NECC either know members of the armed service reserves or are members themselves. They also know that at any given moment a phone call could come to take them or a loved one away to the Persian Gulf.

NECC student, Brian Sawyer, navy

reservist, said, "I'm very nervous. The Navy already called me and asked me if I wanted to volunteer. I said no. They put me on alert and told me to leave a phone number of where I could be reached if I left town for any particular reason."

Tough time: "It is a very sensitive subject around my household. My family is quite upset because at any moment they can call me and right then I would be required to leave. It wasn't a happy Thanksgiving at my house," Sawyer said.

NECC student, Rudd Brown said, "I know

Paper supply runs short, campus urged to conserve

By ROBYN HALE
Observer Staff Reporter

Because of budget problem and increased student usage, the microcomputer lab is running out of paper.

Each year more students use the lab for classes and their own personal use.

Due to reversions, the computer supply budget has been cut from \$35,000 to \$18,000.

There is a definite possibility that they will be out of supply money by February or March.

Separate budgets: Administrative and academic departments split the paper. Although they have separate budgets, they share the paper.

Last year the computer lab used 15 boxes of paper. This semester they've already used nine.

Sandy Meldrum, director of technical laboratories, said, "How can we solve this problem? The computers are available to any student on campus."

"Are we going to have to charge students \$1 for paper? It's ridiculous to do that because fees are high enough."

According to Meldrum, there are ways to conserve paper:

- ☐ Only print when necessary.
- ☐ Do not reprint the entire document for only one page
- ☐ Use the spell check, if available.
- ☐ If possible, do not advance the printer after a print out. Wait until the next person prints to tear off the document.

For other ideas for conserving the supply budget, contact Donna Moolie or Meldrum in the computer lab at ext. 3966.

a couple of my friends that are in the reserves and they're pretty scared. One of my friends has already been called and left recently."

Troop strength in Saudi Arabia has escalated to 400,000 in the past two weeks, and the total is expected to keep growing, officials said.

More students have begun to speak out against the troop buildup recently and raise questions left unanswered by the Bush Administration.

Questions policy: NECC student Matt Mcquillen said he does not know why troops

are in the Persian Gulf.

"I don't see why we have to send our troops over there. Why can't other countries send 400,000 of their troops. We are all supposed to be united against Iraq, but we are the only country that is really making a sacrifice."

Bob Flynn, NECC custodian, said, "This reminds me a little of the times the country was going through during the 60s and the Vietnam War. I think that it is important that we all try to support our troops and our leaders."

Selective Service official says college deferments not used

By MATT MCGRATH
Observer Staff Reporter

College deferments which exempted students from the draft and enabled many American men to avoid military service during the Vietnam War, are not a factor anymore.

If the crisis in the Middle East leads to war and reinstatement of the draft, current college students will not be as fortunate as their Vietnam-era counterparts, a selective service system official recently said.

Military deferments: "During the Vietnam conflict, male college students were able to defer their military service obligations until after they had completed their educations," said Lou Bradsy, a spokesman for the Selective Service System in Washington, D.C.

"But if Congress were to authorize a reinstatement of the draft, there would be no deferments for college men."

Though the Selective Service System has not yet received an order to implement the draft, Bradsy said, "We have been ready to reinstate the draft for about ten years."

"Within two hours of authorization from Congress, this agency is prepared to hold a

lottery deciding who would be drafted."

Draft restrictions: In the event of a draft, college students receiving an induction notice would be allowed to continue school until the end of the semester. They would then be required to report for military service.

The only exceptions would be students who are in their senior year of a four year school.

Bradsy said, "seniors that are enrolled in a four year university would be allowed to finish their last year in college before being inducted to the military."

Bradsy said the first men drafted would be those who turn 20 during the year the draft was reinstated, although any male between 18 and 25 is eligible.

"We currently have a pool of 13 to 14 million men available in our data base to call on if the draft is reinstated," Bradsy said.

"We believe that within 13 days we could have the first man in the system receiving training, and after 30 days we project to have 100,000."

Deferment possible: Prospective draftees would still be able to apply for deferments on medical and other grounds, but Congress

decided that having no college deferments was the only fair way to administer the draft.

Student deferments during the 1960s enabled many men to avoid the draft if they could afford college, while the poor and minorities shouldered most of the load.

Bradsy said complaints from civil rights activists spurred the change.

Bradsy had a suggestion for men within the drafts age limits. "If the draft is reinstated, my advice to those men who are 20 years old, is to pay very close attention to that lottery."

New management series offered

By JENNIFER GASBARRO
Observer Staff Reporter

Leadership is an important element in the business world. Without it, many would get left behind. At NECC, students are provided with leadership skills in the A.M.A. Management Development Series.

"The A.M.A. Management Development Series have been offered by NECC since the program began in the fall of 1986," said Mary Jane Gillespie, program coordinator. "We try to run two or three or four to six courses in the spring and fall semester and maybe two or three courses in the summer."

Courses offered include: Fundamentals of Finance and Accounting for non-financial managers; Leadership Skills for Executives; Reading and Interpreting Financial Statements; and Developing Business Leadership Skills.

Increase skills: The courses are designed for managers and supervisors who want to increase job performance skills. Participants are taught how to put ideas across effectively in any business situation. Writing memos and reports, running meetings, and giving professional presentations with confidence are covered.

"The program is real small, with only about six or seven students," Gillespie said. A

Program's benefits

Participants are taught how to put ideas across effectively in any business situation. Writing memos and reports, running meetings, and giving professional presentations with confidence are covered.

maximum of 15 students are allowed into the course. Instructors have business-related backgrounds, and they try to give individualized instructor feedback to students.

This non credit course is very intense and students receive either a pass or fail grade from the instructor. Some of the fall courses have already begun at the Haverhill campus and others at the Andover Extension campus.

For more information, contact Gillespie in the Division of Continuing Education.

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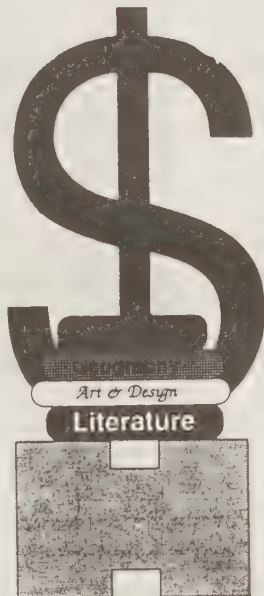
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European adventure

NECC student travels abroad to take photos

By RACHEL S. WIDGER
Observer Features Editor

A trip to Europe over the summer revealed the hidden photographic talent of one NECC student.

Lisa Marie Gallant, liberal arts, joined a group of eight ULowell students and a teacher on a photography workshop covering parts of Finland and Czechoslovakia.

Gallant had no prior photography experience, but decided to take advantage of the opportunity to learn more about it.

"I wanted to learn something about photography, and I said, 'This would be an ideal opportunity for me to do that.' It was to someplace that I'd probably never go if I were not accompanied by some sort of organized group."

Went for fun: "I never thought I had any talent. I just decided that it was something I wanted to do and I thought it would be fun, so I just went with the idea that I was going to do it," she said.

According to Gallant, she had to get special permission to go because she had no previous photography experience, while the other students had two and a half years of background.

Gallant learned to work in a darkroom and develop pictures before she went on the trip. Much of the workshop took place at the Victor Baroskevich Art Center in Finland, named after one of Finland's most famous photographers.

While in Finland, the group stayed in a guest house located 12 miles outside the city of Kuopio. She said the people of Finland are very friendly.

Friendly people: "It was wonderful. During the summer they are very joyous people. They're very happy because of the long days."

Gallant said during the summer, daylight lasts for about 20 hours per day, whereas during the winter there are only one or two hours of daylight.

The group also traveled to Czechoslovakia. While there, they stayed in Prague, the nation's capital.

Gallant noticed a distinct difference between Finland and Czechoslovakia from the pictures she took in both countries.

"They're so entirely different. There's no correlation. They're like night and day. What was strange was that when I started developing the pictures, I realized that almost all of the photos that I had taken from Czechoslovakia were vertical and almost all of the photographs I had taken from Finland were horizontal."

Contrasting countries: "I think it had something to do with the fact that Finland looked like wide open space and Prague, in Czechoslovakia, had very tall buildings...so the pictures were vertical. Because of the landscape and everything (in Finland) the pictures were horizontal," she said.

Gallant said the trip was wonderful and a real eye-opener.

She is currently showing her work at The Grog in Newburyport until Dec. 15.

"I've never attempted to do anything like this before. Most of the time when I do things, I just do them and don't say anything about them. It's all part of becoming aware that I have the ability."

Gallant would like to sell some of her work to help pay for her school expenses. She will receive an associate's degree in liberal arts at the close of this semester and plans to try to get into the accelerated nursing program at NECC next semester.

She added that although she would have liked to have been a photojournalist, at this point she takes pictures as a hobby.



Foreign photography

L.M. Gallant photos

STREET SCENE in Prague, Czechoslovakia, top and sunset in Kuopio, Finland, left.

Psychology teacher, wife exhibit photos

By CECILIA M. GOODRICH
Observer Staff Reporter

Not only is NECC Professor John Whittle a psychology teacher and writer, but his hobby of photography has turned semi-professional. Some of his work is being shown this month at the Boxford library.

His wife Mary, a former NECC instructor, will also show her work composed primarily of wild and home grown flowers.

While Whittle finds a sense of serenity in filming the geese and other wildlife on nearby ponds, Mary finds her solace in the beauty of Dahlia's.

Both Whittle's have enjoyed photography together for three years.

"We both started this together," Whittle said. "I find it peaceful and it brings me away from the crisis of abnormal psychology I teach here and the situations I deal with at the hospital."

Inspiring flowers: Mary Whittle saw a showing some years ago of Georgia O'Keefe, who specializes in paintings of flowers and was inspired by them.

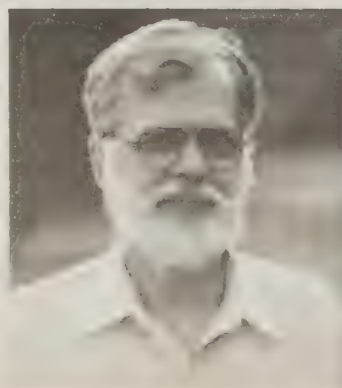
Mary is currently attending Bradford College studying black and white photography.

Both have taken courses in poetry and short story writing at Salem State. In addition to their photography shows, each is having poetry published in the *Northern Essex Review* at NECC.

Works to be shown: "We've shown our work at the Family Bank in Boxford under the 'Artist of the Month' and will probably try the Gallery in Portsmouth next," Whittle said.

His favorite photograph is a swan photographed on Johnson's Pond in Groveland, but he finds serenity in the three mallards on a rock he captured in print.

The Boxford Library showing will be until the end of December. Library hours are



Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. and Tuesday, Thursday 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Saturday hours are 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

JOHN AND Mary Whittle.

File photo



A Time For Greatness

30th anniversary of JFK's presidency to start in January '91 at gallery

By ANDREW LADEROUTE
Observer Staff Reporter

WCVB-TV political analyst Doris Kearns Goodwin, author of *The Fitzgeralds and the Kennedys*, will be among many guests to speak in an early year celebration of John F. Kennedy and his presidency.

Goodwin will appear on Jan. 25 in the Bentley Library.

She has had a lifelong interest with American history and particularly the son of an Irish immigrant, John F. Kennedy, whose life represented to her the "struggle of the 19th century newcomers who forced open the doors of American life so zealously guarded by those who had first settled the land."

Goodwin's research on the Kennedys took her to the attic of Joe and Rose Kennedy, who shared with her "memories even the Kennedys had forgotten."

Family records: There, they dug through more than 150 cartons of paper belonging to the former president's proud parents.

Goodwin recalls in her book, "After digging through the cartons she began to show Rose letters dating as far back as the early 1900s and hand written notes...resurrecting long buried memories which Rose generously, often excitedly, shared with me."

Goodwin will trace the Kennedy's rise to fame and fortune which captured the hearts and minds of not only America but the world.

Goodwin has also written a best selling book, *Lyndon Johnson and the American Dream*, recalling her days as a fellow and staff assistant in the Johnson administration.



DORIS KEARNS GOODWIN, author of *The Fitzgeralds and the Kennedys*, will lecture at NECC on Jan. 25.

Goodwin is married to Richard Goodwin, a former Kennedy speechwriter, and lives with her three children in Concord, Mass.

New exhibit: *A Time for Greatness* is a photographic exhibit researched by NECC gallery coordinator Arthur Signorelli; it will be on display Jan. 14 through Feb. 24 in the NECC Gallery.

Signorelli said, "There's still a fascination with the Kennedy family even after 30 years. People liked him because he made them feel involved in the way America worked. They

could laugh at Kennedy the man because often he made fun of himself."

Signorelli recalled being in San Diego after the 1980 presidential election and he picked up the local paper and there on the front page "Among all the top stories they had to run, I mean there was the election results and the release of the Iranian hostages, all on page one and stuck on the bottom of the front page was a story about Ted Kennedy filing for divorce."

Signorelli said, "John F. Kennedy attracted world attention when he made his famous speech on the Berlin wall to thousands of cheering Germans as he dismissed the wall as a product of a communist society."

The rest of the exhibit's events follow:

A Time for Greatness

The Presidency of John F. Kennedy

A Time For Greatness, a photographic exhibit researched and curated by NECC gallery coordinator Arthur Signorelli on the Presidency of John F. Kennedy, will be on display in the NECC Gallery Jan. 14-Feb. 24, 1991.

30th Anniversary Celebration Events:

Sunday, January 20, 1991: 1-4 p.m.

30th anniversary celebration of the inauguration of John Kennedy exhibit opening reception and special performance.

Friday, Jan. 25, 1991: 7 p.m.

Doris Kearns Goodwin, author of *The Fitzgeralds and the Kennedys*. Goodwin will trace the Kennedys' accession to fame, fortune, and into the fascination of Americans and the world. She will also autograph copies of her book following the lecture. Goodwin's book will be available at the NECC bookstore in

January and at this lecture.

Monday, Jan. 28, 1991: 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.

Panel Discussion: The Leadership of JFK, Thirty Years Later.

NECC faculty members will provide a retrospective look at the Kennedy presidency in the areas of civil rights, military obligations, and religion.

Monday, Feb. 4, 1991: 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

Lunch with Robert Frost.

NECC faculty member Thomas Mofford will read selected works of Frost (John Kennedy's favorite poet), with a special reading of the poem Robert Frost wrote for the Kennedy Inauguration.

Tuesday, Feb. 5, 1991: noon-1 p.m.

Eyes of the Prize - Part I

Fighting Back, 1957-1962 examines the law both as a tool for change and resistance to change, particularly as it relates to education.

Covered are the court cases of the of the late 1940s that led to the 1954 Supreme Court *Brown vs. Board of Education* decision, the stories of nine black teenagers who integrated Little Rock's Central High School in 1957, and James Meredith's 1962 enrollment at the University of Mississippi.

Wednesday, Feb. 6, 1991: noon-1 p.m.

Eyes on the Prize - Part II

The second part *Ain't Scared of Your Jails, 1960-1961* depicts the changing focus of black protest during the early 1960s.

Thursday, Feb. 7, 1991: noon-1 p.m.

Eyes on the Prize - Part III

Mississippi: Is This America? 1962-1964—highlights black citizens who had been denied the right to vote.

Thursday, Feb. 7, 1991: 2 p.m.

John F. Kennedy, the Man and the President.

Kennedy scholar Dr. Fred Danker of the University of Massachusetts/Boston will talk about the life of John F. Kennedy from youth through the presidential years.

(See page 16)

A Time Kennedy ex

In recognition of the 30th anniversary of the inauguration of John F. Kennedy as the 35th President of the United States, the Gallery at NECC will display a photographic exhibition titled, *A Time for Greatness: The Presidency of John F. Kennedy*, from Jan. 14-Feb. 14.

The exhibition was researched and curated by NECC gallery coordinator Arthur Signorelli in cooperation with the John F. Kennedy Library in Boston.

A Time for Greatness will consist of 70 color and black and white photographs, quotes from John Kennedy, front page newspaper reprints from that era, Kennedy campaign posters, pins and other memorabilia. The photographs were selected from the national archives at the John F. Kennedy Library from the collections of White House photographers and Kennedy family files.

Gallery coordinator and exhibit curator Signorelli explains the exhibition will focus not only on the tangible changes Kennedy encouraged during his presidency, but on his personal concerns and goals for America and its role in world affairs.

"The exhibition focuses on President Kennedy's character and the image he projected to the people — an image of youth and vitality, a feeling that anything was possible, but we would have to be involved in the process," he said. "He made academics and compassion fashionable; he changed the image of politicians and excited Americans to become participants in the action and power of government. He created a positive attitude for America and much of the world, an attitude that many believe was lost to history on Nov. 22, 1963."



JFK CAMPAIGNS at a Nashua, N.H. diner on March 5, 1960.

Photo courtesy of Kennedy Library and Museum.

Kennedy scholar to speak about JFK's early years



FREDERICK DANKER will speak on Feb. 7 and 15 at the Bentley Library Gallery.

C. Evans photo

Frederick Danker, professor of American Studies at the UMass/Boston, will appear at NECC as part of the college's 30th anniversary celebration of the presidency of John F. Kennedy. Danker has done extensive research on the Kennedy family, and teaches The Kennedys of Boston class at the university.

On Thursday, Feb. 7 at 2 p.m., Danker will speak on the life of John Kennedy from his birth at 83 Beals St. in Brookline through his presidential years.

Danker will highlight the family life of John Kennedy, how he fit into what Doris Kearns Goodwin refers to in her book *The Fitzgeralds and the Kennedys* as "The Golden Trio" of Joe, Kathleen, and John, and the impact of his heroic PT-109 mission on his brother Joe. He will also talk about his marriage to Jacqueline Kennedy and the significance of his election as an Irish Catholic to the presidency.

On Thursday, Feb. 15 at 2 p.m., Danker will be back at NECC to talk about Rose Kennedy and her attitudes toward her family, religion, and how she has handled the many triumphs and tragedies of her family. Prior to the lecture the video, *Rose Kennedy — A Mother's Story* will be shown at 1 p.m.

This event is free and open to the public; students and faculty are encouraged to attend.

For more information or to schedule a class visit, contact Arthur Signorelli, gallery coordinator, at (508) 374-3921.



ROSE KENNEDY, mother of the president.

PR photo



Civil rights ac

PRESIDENT KENNEDY meets with NAACP representatives

Civil Rights doc to broadcast du

During the celebration of the 30th anniversary of the Presidency of John F. Kennedy at NECC, four parts of the award winning PBS series, *Eyes on the Prize, America's Civil Rights Years* will be shown in the Library Conference Center. This series is scheduled for Feb. 5 through Feb. 8 and is free.

On Tuesday, Feb. 5, *Fighting Back 1957-1962*, will be shown examining United States law both as a tool for change and resistance to change, particularly as it related to education.

Covered are the court cases of the late 1940s that led to the 1954 Supreme Court *Brown versus Board of Education* decision, the stories of nine black teenagers who integrated Little Rock's Central High School in 1957, and James Meredith's 1962 enrollment at the University of Mississippi.

On Wednesday, Feb. 6, *Ain't Scared of Your Jails 1960-1961* will depict the changing focus of black protest during the early 1960s.

John F. Kennedy

"The American people expect more from us than cries of indignation and attack. The times are too grave, the challenges too urgent, and the stakes too high to permit the customary passions of political debate. We are not here to curse the darkness, but to light the candle that can guide us through the darkness to a safe and sane future."

Time For Greatness

Exhibit to start in January at NECC

Kennedy Memorabilia

A Time for Greatness will consist of 70 color and black and white photographs, quotes from John Kennedy, front page newspaper reprints from that era, Kennedy campaign posters, pins and other memorabilia.

In addition to the photographic exhibition, an extensive schedule of special events are scheduled to celebrate the Kennedy presidency. Some of the events include a lecture by Doris Kearns Goodwin, author of the book *The Fitzgeralds and the Kennedys*; Judge Gordon Martin on *JFK and Civil Rights*; and *An Afternoon of Music from the White House*.

An opening reception is scheduled for Sunday, Jan. 20, from 4 p.m. with a *Dramatic Portrayal of JFK* by the NECC Drama Society at 2 p.m.



JFK RIDES in motorcade during the 1960 campaign.

Photo courtesy of Kennedy Library and Museum.

Visit Kennedy's birthplace, JFK Library, Museum also

On Tuesday, Feb. 12, the Gallery at NECC is scheduling a trip to the John F. Kennedy birthplace in Brookline and to the John F. Kennedy Library and Museum in Boston.

The first stop will be at the Kennedy home at 83 Bears St. in Brookline, where John Kennedy was born and spent the first few years of his childhood. The house was purchased by Joseph Kennedy in 1914 in anticipation of his marriage to Rose Fitzgerald.

The Kennedys moved into the house upon returning from their wedding. Their first four children — Joseph in 1915, John in 1917, Rosemary in 1918, and Kathleen in 1920 — were born in this house. They moved two streets over to Naples Road in 1921.

Quiet times: The years the Kennedys lived there were quiet ones, typical of a young married couple starting a family during the early 1900s. Mr. Kennedy went to work each day and dined with his family every evening.

Mrs. Kennedy oversaw the details of the growing household, attended concerts and club meetings with other young women who shared her interests, and gave to each of her children unstinting devotion and care.

NECC Gallery Coordinator Arthur Signorelli finds the most interesting and historically significant room in the house the dining room.

"This is where the children were taught the importance of public service," he said. "Each day the Kennedy children were given a topic which would be discussed at the dinner table, and they were to find out as much information as they could during the day in preparation for the evening meal. Frequently, Joe or Rose Kennedy would post a newspaper or magazine article outside the dining room for the children to read before dinner."

Complete files: Also interesting is the file box which Rose kept, with a section for each of the children.

"In this box, Rose would record important information on each of the children, such as birthdates, birthweights, illnesses, medication, and allergies," Signorelli said. "With a rapidly growing family like the Kennedys, it would have been impossible for Rose to remember such information."

The house was again purchased by the Kennedy family in 1966, and was donated to the National Park System. Rose Kennedy supervised the restoration and refurnishing of the house to its 1917 appearance.

The second stop on the trip will be the John F. Kennedy Library and Museum in Boston. The library was built with private donations and was given to the United States Government on Oct. 20, 1979. It is part of the National Archives.

Interesting documents: The library's museum portrays the life of John F. Kennedy, traces the career of his brother Robert Kennedy, and illustrates the nature of the office of the President of the United States. The exhibits incorporate films, recordings, photographs, letters, speeches, and hundreds of objects from the library's collection.

Signorelli finds the library particularly important to visit, because "not only does it convey John Kennedy's enthusiasm and love of politics and government, but it helps to better understand our nation's recent history and the problems faced by our presidents and elected officials."

Reservations and a payment of \$12 should be made in the gallery office, A-317, by Feb. 5.

For information, contact Signorelli at (508) 374-3921.

Accomplishments

Photo courtesy of Kennedy Library and Museum.

on July 12, 1961.

Documentary series on civil rights celebration

On Thursday, Feb. 7, *Mississippi: Is this America? 1962-1964* highlights black citizens who had been denied the right to vote and stepped forward and demanded a place in the political process. Medgar Evers, Michael Schwerner, Andrew Goodman, James Chaney and others died trying to help them.

On Friday, Feb. 8, *No Easy Walk 1962-1966* retells the stories of three cities that are indelibly linked with the civil rights movement: Albany, Georgia where Martin Luther King Jr. tested the strategy of non-violence; Birmingham, Alabama where children marched against the city's fire hoses and filled the jails; and Washington, D.C., where black and white, young and old, north and south, came together to march on the nation's capital.

For more information on this series, or if any NECC faculty members or high school teachers wish to bring a class to view the videos, contact Arthur Signorelli at (508) 374-3921. The videos are also available for classroom use.

John F. Kennedy on civil rights

"One hundred years of delay have passed since President Lincoln freed the slaves, yet their heirs, their grandsons, are not fully free. They are not yet freed from the bonds of injustice. They are not yet freed from economic and social oppression. And this nation, for all its hopes and boasts, will not be fully free until all its citizens are free."

Kennedy exhibit to start in January '91

(continued from page 13)

Thursday, Feb. 7, 1991: 7:30-9:30 p.m.
Civil Rights and John F. Kennedy
Judge Gordon Martin of Roxbury District Court will talk about his experiences as a young lawyer during the early 1960s in the Civil Rights Division of the Justice Department under Robert Kennedy and his work in drafting the Voting Rights Bill of 1964. Martin will also offer his views on the progress the United States has made in civil rights since the Kennedy years.

Friday, Feb. 8, 1991: Noon-1 p.m.
Eyes on the Prize — Part IV
No Easy Walk, 1962-1966 retells the stories of three cities that are indelibly linked with the civil rights movement: Albany, Georgia where Martin Luther King Jr. tested out the strategy of non-violence; Birmingham, Alabama where children marched against the city's fire hoses and filled the jails; and Washington, D.C., where black and white, young and old, north and south, came together to march on the nation's capital.

Sunday, Feb. 10, 1991: 2 p.m.
An Afternoon of Music from the White House.

Pianist Michael Kramer will play music from the many special performances by world-renowned artists invited to the White House during the Kennedy years in an effort by John and Jacqueline Kennedy to promote the arts in America.

Tuesday, Feb. 12, 1991: 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m.
Trip to the John F. Kennedy Birthplace and Library.

A tour of the birthplace of John F. Kennedy in Brookline then on to a visit to the John F. Kennedy Library and Museum in Boston. Reservations and payment of \$12 are due by Feb. 5 to Northern Essex Community College,

Gallery Office, Elliott Way, Haverhill, Mass 01830.

Wednesday, Feb. 13, 1991: 7-9 p.m.
An Irish American in Dublin
Kathy Gallagher will talk about what it is like to be an Irish American who returns to the land of her ancestors — as John Kennedy did in 1963 — and what she learned about her homeland. Preregistration and payment of \$9 is required through the Division of Continuing Education Office, NECC, Elliott Way, Haverhill, Mass. 01830.

Thursday, Feb. 14, 1991: 1-2 p.m.
Rose Kennedy — A Mother's Story
This one hour video will document the life of Rose Kennedy through interviews with Rose and family members. A talk on Rose Kennedy will follow at 2 p.m.

Rose Kennedy — Mother of a President 2-4 p.m.
Dr. Fred Danker of the University of Massachusetts/Boston will talk about the life of Rose Kennedy and her attitudes towards her family and religion.

Tuesday, Feb. 19, 1991: 7:30-9:30 p.m.
All College Colloquia
Discussion of Henry Hampton's book *Voices of Freedom: A Oral History of the Civil Rights Movement 1950-1980*, based on the PBS Series *Eyes on the Prize*. *Voices of Freedom* will be available in the NECC bookstore in January.

Saturday, Feb. 23, 1991: 9 am.-1 p.m.
Political Item Collectors Show
Over 20 collectors of political Americana memorabilia will show and sell items such as buttons, ribbons, posters and banners, glassware, autographs, sheet music, and other novelty items from political campaigns for political candidates and from political causes such as women's suffrage, Prohibition, and labor organizations. An auction is scheduled



Kennedy inauguration

JOHN F. KENNEDY takes the presidential oath of office 30 years ago.

PR photo

for noon.

This event is sponsored by the American Political Items Collectors organization. Admission is \$1.

All events will take place in the Gallery in

the Bentley Library at NECC, unless otherwise noted.

For more information on these programs or for program cancellations due to inclement weather, call (508) 374-3706.

A TIME FOR GREATNESS

30th ANNIVERSARY OF THE PRESIDENCY OF JOHN F. KENNEDY

Northern Essex Community College Gallery
January 14 - February 24, 1991

Souvenir T-shirts \$10 Adult sizes: medium, large, x-large
Available in the Gallery Office A-317

Foreign adventures

NECC professor talks of time spent in Orient

By JANICE BENOIT
Observer Staff Reporter

Excitement, tension, awe and relief pulsed through NECC history and government professor Gerry Morin's veins in Tiananmen Square in March 1989 while on a tour of China with American military students.

In China, Morin encountered oppression first hand. While standing in Tiananmen Square, he observed a man walk up to a brick wall to hang a poster. Much to Morin's amazement, as the man began to walk away, he was grabbed by another.

Poster demolished: A car sped up to the curb. A man jumped out, and helped to throw the first man in the back seat, another man emerged from the vehicle to tear down the poster.

Morin said, "Two of them had video cameras. They ran over and started filming it."

The man who tore down the poster didn't speak, but made it clear he didn't want the incident photographed.

Upon Morin's prompting, the video recorders were lowered but when the group walked back to the bus, one of the soldiers started filming again.

In 1987, Morin took a leave of absence from NECC and worked for the University of Maryland, in Japan on a military base.

Similar program: Morin said, "It was much like our DCE program. Because of the military schedule, all classes were eight weeks long. We would meet for three hour periods or all day on Saturdays."

Morin's students consisted of 90 percent American serviceman and 10 percent wives, children or dependents of the military. He found there is a difference between the American college student and the serviceman as a student.

"There was a tremendous commitment to formality. Students always said, 'Yes sir,' and by habit would salute me. It is certainly not something we do here," Morin said.

Marines were generally the most highly disciplined, Morin said. In some cases, they found it difficult to come into an academic setting and discuss topics freely. They tended to almost sit at attention, and speak only when spoken to.

"When I tried to loosen up and create an atmosphere of freedom, you could see some struggle with the sense of speaking out freely," Morin said.

Class could become extremely stiff when an officer enrolled as a student. It happened only occasionally, but if it occurred it was quickly recognizable. During discussions the servicemen defer to the officer.

Morin said, "It would be like taking the same class as your boss; one a clerk, the other a manager. The clerk receives the A's and the



Far Eastern experience

GERRY MORIN lectures to colleagues in the social sciences division.

J. Benoit photo

manager the C's or D's. It could complicate the relationship outside the classroom."

Chinese students: In addition to occasional study tours, Morin capitalized on other opportunities while in Asia. One involved the University of Maryland sending three or four faculty members to Xi'an, (also known as Hsian or Sian), in northwestern China. Morin applied and went to Northwestern University to teach American English and Culture to Chinese students.

Morin brought children's books and copies of classic American songs and Christmas carols with him.

"They just love the basic American songs, like *Old MacDonald Had a Farm* and *Home, Home on the Range*. The songs were good because we would read, recite and discuss the meanings, and then sing them. In August, we were singing *Deck the Halls With Boughs of Holly* in a hot dry heat.

Housing for the students was terrible.

"Dormitories are appalling. They are basically four stone walls," Morin said. "Students would get a metal bowl and a cup, go to the cafeteria, have the stuff slopped in their bowls, get some tea and carry it back to their rooms.

Filth abounds: "There are dirty dishes, clothes and rubbish around the facility. People launder their clothes, hang them in their

windows and around the room. To walk about, one had to weave through everything.

"The standard of material existence is a lot less than anything we can think of. In fact, students don't think the university and education are not at all well-supported and taken care of in China as they should be.

"They are right."

Morin said he would occasionally visit a professor whose home was made up of cement walls with no rugs. It is like living in a garage, and that was good.

Having traveled to China in both March and August 1989, Morin observed a tremendous difference in the attitudes of the Chinese people.

He said, "In March, the people were extremely outspoken. They wanted to sit down and talk with us. They were quite open and critical of the way things are done in China. They wanted to know about American life."

Students reserved: "When I returned in July and August of 1989 the students tended to be a lot more reserved than in March," Morin said. "Their life had changed. People were more guarded in what they talked about.

"I think it was because there were so many different people in class. A lot of young people who would have wanted to speak out were very concerned about saying something that might result in their being targeted by other people who said, 'We heard you say ...' especially when there were superiors, senior professors and administrators who may be official types that would single them out for punishment later."

A couple of faculty students went to Morin to warn him to be careful. Morin was told, "There are a lot of very unhappy people out there who are angry at what had happened in Beijing. You are a foreigner. There are not a lot of you around," Morin said.

In fact, Morin was the only western faculty member to return that summer to teach. He said, "In the mail room there were stacks and stacks of mail with the names of Europeans and Americans."

Morin found himself being just as cautious as his students. On two occasions he was approached by students who commented on how "bad" it was, what happened in Tiananmen. Morin simply stated how "unfortunate" it was. As a foreigner, he wanted to appear neutral.

Civil war: He was told some people were saying the country was on the verge of civil war. Morin said, "There was one woman who told me there were a lot of things going on the

Gerry Morin on Chinese, American students' differences

"Maybe some of the reasons they (American students) don't work as hard and aren't as committed is because they have not had to deal with material and political want."

"Maybe their style of existence is taken for granted, and people who don't have it are very hungry. I don't know if Americans are as hungry as they used to be."

press doesn't know. Even in Xi'an there were more murders occurring than what was reported. Bodies were being found where people were taking political retributions out on others.

"She said, 'You don't want to get involved in that. Be careful.' So, I was careful. I never felt threatened."

Morin spoke of how every night on television the government showed their rendition for one and a half hours of what happened in Tiananmen Square. It was clearly selected footage that portrayed demonstrators as being ruffians and thugs that beat up the troops. Pictures were shown of soldiers being beaten, bleeding, and doctored to. The story was one of troublemakers trying to overthrow the government, and making trouble for everyone.

"They interviewed parents of soldiers who were killed and injured. They would show the family carrying the remains of their sons, covered in the national flag and of the government leaders thanking the parents for the sacrifice their sons made for the good of the Peoples Republic of China.

Morin's experiences in Asia left him wondering about American students.

Not committed: "Maybe some of the reasons they (American students) don't work as hard and aren't as committed is because they have not had to deal with material and political want."

"Maybe their style of existence is taken for granted, and people who don't have it are very hungry. I don't know if Americans are as hungry as they used to be."

Morin believes more students are hungry at NECC.

"Students generally want to get a good education and transfer to a good four-year college."

"I think our students mature more quickly because there is more of a sense of reality, than in students who attend finer schools, where their tuition is paid by mom and dad. It reminds me of the Chinese, Japanese and servicemen students."

Morin found the Chinese students to be driven.

"A lot of them don't know Harvard, but they all know MIT. They want to transfer to U.S. universities and major in engineering."

"They know, in many cases, people are promoted on the basis of their political ideology. They want to get away from that."

"They want to be judged on the basis of their abilities and the merit of their qualifications."

"They want to get out (of China), to get an education, to get ahead materially, and they want to be free," Morin said.

Class Cancellations

are announced on the following stations:



WBZ 1030 AM BOSTON
WBCN 104 FM BOSTON
WCAP 980 AM LOWELL
WCCM 800 AM LAWRENCE
WCGY 93.7 LAWRENCE
WEEI 590 AM BOSTON
WESX 1230 AM SALEM
WHAV 1490 AM HAVERHILL
WHDH 850 AM BOSTON
WLLH 1400 AM LAWRENCE, LOWELL
WNCG 1450 AM NEWBURYPORT
WRKO 680 AM BOSTON
WBZ TV 4 BOSTON
WCVB TV 5 BOSTON
WHDH TV 7 BOSTON

Or call NECC's School Announcement Number at 508-374-5800

SEXUAL HARASSMENT

Resource group attempts to help students in need of much support

By HELEN UBINAS
Observer Staff Reporter

The touch of his hand startled her. She had disregarded her professor's extra attention in class, but now there was no way to ignore his advances.

She felt trapped.

As she turned to leave, she vowed not to tell anyone for the fear of not being believed or accused of overreacting.

This is just one scenario of how sexual harassment on a college campus can occur.

Although campuses are not as diversified as the outside workplace, they are not immune to sexual harassment.

Many methods: Similar to the workplace, sexual harassment on campus takes different forms.

It can range from student to student, faculty to faculty, or faculty to student.

According to Selma Singer, professor, department of behavioral sciences, and member, sexual harassment resource group at NECC, most cases occur in a power structure.

"Cases occur when people in positions of power, almost always males, harass women subordinates," she said.

Although men can be victims of sexual harassment, most cases indicate an overwhelming number of women are harassed.

Singer said better than 90 percent of harassed individuals are women.

Blame themselves: "Women are socialized to believe when things like this happen, it is their own fault."

She also said even in the few cases where people are willing to come forward, it is difficult to prove.

Jim Brown, professor, department of mathematics and member, sexual harassment resource group, said students are embarrassed when it happens to them.

"It is a very personal and embarrassing thing to talk about. People don't realize how devastating something like that can be."

In a classroom situation, where a teacher is harassing a student, many times the student drops the course without telling anyone.

Eleanor Hope-McCarthy, professor, department of English and member, sexual harassment resource group, said it is unfortunate that it affects students in this way.

People's choices: Victims often have the perception that they have only two choices to deal with harassment: one being to ignore the situation, and the other to bring forth a formal complaint.

NECC's sexual harassment resource group gives victims a third option. They try to resolve complaints through an informal process of education and communication.

The resource group does not judge whether a person is guilty or not. It offers support and tries to open the lines of communication between the alleged harasser and the person who feels they have been harassed.

If the situation is unresolvable through informal methods, it is then brought to the student grievance procedure. Students can file a complaint of sexual harassment after the class is over if they feel it might affect their grade.

Members of the group have received specialized training in mediation skills and sexual harassment resolution techniques.

Group's function: The role of the group is to provide counseling, education, information and assistance in communication to both students and staff bringing forth a complaint and to the alleged harasser.

Judith Kamber, director, staff development



and chairperson, sexual harassment resource group, said, "At least some of the time, sexual harassment is a question of education; educating people on what it is and that it is against the law."

Title IX of the 1972 Educational Amendments and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 protect both students and employees from sexual harassment.

NECC has had a policy against sexual harassment since 1983.

Kamber said in some cases, it is probably appropriate to go the informal route.

"There are times when there could be an incident in which the individual who is the alleged harasser doesn't realize what he/she is doing constitutes sexual harassment," she said.

Subtle activity: Dottie Holmes, secretary to the dean of students and member, sexual harassment resource group, said sometimes it's so subtle an alleged harasser probably doesn't realize just what they're doing to make someone feel uncomfortable.

"Sometimes someone is brought up to act in a certain way. Someone could be brought up always hugging. Another person that is brought up with no hugging could be hugged by this person and feel that it is not natural," she said.

It is often difficult to clearly define what sexual harassment is.

There are various levels ranging from subtle verbal harassment to coerced sexual relations.

Dirty jokes are one form of sexual harassment many people are not aware of.

Kamber said in some situations the person telling the joke doesn't realize he/she is harassing individuals around them.

Usual form: According to Singer, there are currently several serious situations on campus which for the most part deal with a student being harassed by faculty.

She also said most students are not willing to pursue their complaints for fear of retribution.

In addition to educating the alleged harassers and making them aware of the victim's feelings towards them and their actions, the resource group also provides support for the victim.

Kamber said, "We're asking people not to suffer in silence."

Resource group advisers help individuals who feel they have been harassed to explore their options.

Although the group works toward a possible settlement between the two parties, Kamber said the route a person chooses to go in is up to the individual.

She attributes women not reporting the incidents to the past history of women and the legal system's actions in regards to sexual crimes.

Woman's responsibility: "We have a legal system which also looks at women who have been raped and asks 'was this woman responsible', 'what was she wearing', 'did she somehow provoke it?'"

Ultimately, the decision and resolution depends on the individual and the nature of the problem.

"Everyone will react differently. There may be someone who is very confident in coming forward. Another might feel uncomfortable and just decide to drop out of class," Kamber said.

Opinions on where sexual harassment is most prevalent differ between faculty and students.

Holmes said cases she has heard about involve male students who feel they have been approached by a male teacher.

"Whether it's a trend, I don't know," she said.

Campus harassment: Kamber guessed it occurs primarily student to student at NECC, but is unsure because of the lack of statistics.

Brown said a lot depends on the way the victim is taking the whole thing.

"Pretty much, it's up to the victim if they want to take the legal route."

New option: He also said the resource group is not there to eliminate legal proceedings.

"We're just a third option people can use if they decide not to go through the legal route," Brown said.

Kamber said a woman might choose not to confront the harasser and instead choose just to talk about it.

"Everything is very confidential. It is very difficult for people to come forth, so it's important it be dealt with anonymously and confidentially, if the woman chooses to leave it at that."

Because of the confidentiality, there are no statistics that show how frequent sexual harassment occurs at NECC.

Singer said, "There has been talk about reporting incidents, but the only way would be on a voluntary basis."

Individual action: Kamber said the frequency is also hard to determine because in so many cases of sexual harassment the woman deals with it herself.

She also said the resource group is trying to get some sense of how the campus population feels about sexual harassment and how frequently it occurs.

Action needed

Whether or not a person feels sexual harassment occurs more between students or between faculty and students, all feel it is wrong and something to combat it should be done.

Heather Moore, liberal arts, said it probably occurs more between students because there are more places it can happen.

"People don't want to hear about sexual harassment. They don't want to cause waves in the system."

She also said the harasser and the victim should seek counseling.

Another NECC student, Bryan Contino, said he doesn't feel there is much sexual harassment on campus.

"I think there is more student to student. Teacher to student is less common. If it goes on, it is probably consenting."

He also said the harasser should be prosecuted.

"Laws shouldn't be different just because it's in school," he said.

Action needed: Whether or not a person feels sexual harassment occurs more between students or between faculty and students, all feel it is wrong and something to combat it should be done.

Hope-McCarthy said women need to have some sense of what's going on.

"At the same time, we (women) need to exercise judgment and caution," she said.

Brown feels getting information out to the public about what sexual harassment is and that it is illegal might curtail many incidents.

"Knowing what sexual harassment is might make people think twice before they start acting a certain way," he said.

The resource group currently has posters and brochures throughout the campus giving information on the myths and facts of what sexual harassment entails.

Kamber feels sexual harassment should not be tolerated, nor should someone have to suffer through it.

Harassment intolerable: "Nobody should have to tolerate going into a classroom or work place and being a victim of racism, nor should they tolerate being a victim of sexual harassment," she said.

By HELEN UBINAS
Observer Staff Reporter

The posters on sexual harassment displayed throughout NECC illustrate a rose with one lone petal falling from it.

"Kris" could be compared to that rose whose composure and form were altered because of a recent incident of sexual harassment.

Kris, an NECC student, was harassed by a male instructor who she regarded as friendly and personable.

Although the incident is somewhat in the past, she speaks about it cautiously. She carefully chooses her words so not to give too many descriptive details.

After a few months into the class, the instructor made verbal and physical advances towards Kris.

Wrong idea: "I just talked to him. Because I was personable towards him, maybe he thought I was attracted to him," she said.

She said none of the advances were that bad, but nevertheless, the incident scared her.

"I thought, 'why is this person doing this to me.' I didn't know what to do," she said.

Kris said she didn't let him think she was afraid.

"I didn't take it to the extreme. I pushed him away and he understood," she said.

Kris did not report the incident, nor would she report the incident if it happened again.

"I was afraid of what might happen with his reputation and mine."

She said she didn't want to be his enemy or be exposed as a victim.

Solved alone: Just as many victims decide to resolve the problem on their own, Kris decided it would be better if she dealt with the situation herself.

"I didn't want to deal with court proceedings or what it may entail."

Although she didn't report this incident, she said if the physical advances were worse, she would have told.

"If he attacked me, I'd report it, but it wasn't that type of harassment," she said.

Kris said she doesn't think many students would tell because teachers have a certain power over them. To the student, a teacher is a respected figure, somewhat superior.

After the incident, she said she felt uncomfortable in the class, but didn't drop it because she needed the credits.

Kris doesn't feel the incident hurt her grade, but her

He seemed friendly at first

attitude toward teacher-student relations has changed.

"I wouldn't take him again because of the incident," she said.

If she was aware of a similar incident of harassment with the teacher, Kris said she would warn the woman involved.

"I would talk to the woman and tell her to be careful."

Be careful: Keeping a cautious distance is one of the main ways she feels sexual harassment could be limited.

"There could be a problem if students become too friendly. You never know what a teacher could be like. For all you know, they could be a rapist."

Kris said the incident changed her attitudes and views on how to relate to teachers.

"When I deal with a teacher now, even on a friendly basis, I'm cautious. I'm skeptical of the whole approach."

Although NECC has had a sexual harassment resource group since 1983, Kris was not aware of it.

She also didn't think about speaking to any faculty member in the school.

"The only people I told about the incident were friends off

campus," she said.

Emotional remnant: Although Kris speaks of her sarcastic and fun-type attitude, the incident of sexual harassment left a noticeable emotional scar.

"Persons who are victimized hurt inside. It'll still be there. If you're harassed, you'll never forget."

Kris feels making an issue of sexual harassment on campus will help to prevent it. She said it will instill fear in a person who will harass.

The male instructor who harassed Kris is still teaching on campus.

She said she just quickly greets him in the halls, but their teacher-student relationship is much different from the past.

Help available

Regardless of how subtle or severe any sexual harassment seems, it is *illegal*. The college has resources available to encourage and support a person who suffers from *any* degree of sexual harassment at Northern Essex. Copies of the policies and procedures are available from any of the people listed below or in the Affirmative Action Office.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT RESOURCE GROUP

Jim Brown, math, science and technology dept. C-328 ext. 5835

Steve Fabrucci, director of personnel and affirmative action A-317 ext. 3923

Dottie Holmes, dean of students secretary B-209 ext 3625

Ellie Hope-McCarthy, faculty member, humanities and communications division C-347 ext. 5854

Judith Kamber, director of staff development A-310 ext. 3955

Steve Michaud, director of student activities F-112 ext. 3731

M.J. Perna, career development coordinator, counseling office F-121 ext. 3790

Jean Poth, chairperson, business division B-306 ext. 3624

Selma Singer, faculty member, behavioral sciences dept. C-374 ext. 5884

Mother, son may serve in Persian Gulf crisis

By CECILIA M. GOODRICH
Observer Staff Reporter

After her microbiology exam, Shirley Martino drove her blue Escort to Providence, Rhode Island to be reclassified in the Army National Guard.

Her son James, also a NECC student, is already on active status in the Guard.

Shirley was given a choice. She could remain on leave to complete her studies for a few more months, or she could be reactivated now. If she chose to remain inactive for a few more months, and all reservists are reactivated, she would have to go with whichever unit the Army sees fit.

No choice: "What real choice did I have?" Shirley said. "If I have to go, I want to be with my son and the people I have already worked with."

Her plan backfired when her son James was put on alert as a priority one transfer to a California unit. If called for active duty, he must report there for desert training.

James is currently finishing course work



File photo
JAMES and Shirley Martino.

for a transfer to a four year college to seek a degree as a physician's assistant.

Shirley is a Licensed Practical Nurse and is continuing her studies to be an R.N.

Real fear: Both share similar fears in respect to leaving their home

in case of war in the Persian Gulf, but each has his/her own worries.

"My worst fear is that something will happen to my son," Shirley said. "He will more likely be in the battlefield, where I will probably fill positions in the Bethesda Maryland Hospital so their people can go over."

James said "My worst fear is that someone that is not trained to do what I do will be on the front lines. Don't send a 17 year-old to do what I am trained to do."

He is specially trained for combat medical service, having been in the service for seven years. James has headed an emergency room in Philadelphia where his duties included casting, minor surgery and running lab work.

Needed skills: His mother is classified as an E-5 Corpsman and a nurse. She was corpsman before becoming a nurse. Shirley would use her nursing skills in Bethesda hospital if called there.

Asked what they thought of conscientious objectors, James said, "Everyone has to do what is right for himself. I do believe if someone is to reap the benefits (of living in this country) each should do his part." Shirley agreed.

James, 23, is the father of a 16 month-old daughter, and he has two younger sisters.

"I am not worried about what will happen to the girls if we both go," Shirley said. "We are a very close knit family and my sister will

James Martino

"We talk about the possibility of something happening, but we don't chant the death song every day."

take care of them."

School status: James said, "My wife knew it was only a matter of time when all this started in August. She will be well taken care of and so will my daughter."

Concerning their status at NECC, if they must leave at this point, they would be withdrawn with a grade of W. Their tuition would be credited and they could repeat the courses at no cost later.

Shirley said, "I don't really think that's fair. I could see it if it was the first week of classes, but we're almost through."

"James is doing so well in his classes that if he were to skip finals, he'd still pass."

Shirley's daughter (James' sister) came in after school and made herself something to eat. Asked what she thought of her mom and brothers' possible involvement, she said, "I worry like any other family would about something happening to them, but I am not worried about me and my sister. We'll be taken care of."

Fully prepared: James said, "We talk about the possibility of something happening, but we don't chant the death song every day. If you live each day as if you're going to die, you aren't truly living."

Shirley has told her family where all the important papers are and how to pay the bills.

She told them which bills are put on hold due to the Soldiers and Sailors relief Act, which allows active duty personnel to repay their mortgage and/or other major bank loans after they return from duty without penalty for late payment.

James proudly showed pictures of he and his mother in uniform, and of his daughter Meghan and his other sister.

Daily routine: After lunch dishes were cleared he and his mother got into their little blue Escort and drove back to NECC for afternoon classes.

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'The hidden story'

UFO specialist speaks about several sightings

By M. MURPHY
Observer Staff Reporter

At a recent afternoon lecture in the Student Center, Robert Hastings discussed recently declassified U.S. government documents which reveal "the hidden story" of UFO sightings around the world.

The slide-tape program covered 1947 to the present. UFO's have been sighted in all 50 states, flying near vital installations such as aircraft bases, rocket test sites, and atomic weapon centers.

These sightings have been dismissed as small meteors, hailstones, marsh gas, solar reflections, and weather balloons, probably because the U.S. government does not want the people to believe that UFO's exist, Hastings said.

UFO sightings: In 1952, it was reported that several UFO's hovered near Washington, DC and the White House. They were chased by F-111's but the objects easily outdistanced the Air Force jets at speeds over 7000 m.p.h.

The headline read, "Objects Outstrip Jets Over Capital," but these sightings were dismissed as "atmospheric illusion" and "temperature inversion."

In 1953, the CIA took charge of UFO policy, Hastings said. The UFO cover-up has been a lesson in lying and intrigue. The debunking campaign was the result of the government's attempt to reduce interest in UFO's. In an attempt to manipulate public opinion against UFO's, these objects were usually mislabeled as natural phenomena or hoaxes.

In 1961, on a September night in rural New Hampshire, Barney and Betty Hill remember hearing a beeping sound. They then became very drowsy. Later, they recovered their senses, but they had lost two hours of time in their memory.

This story of UFO abduction received nationwide publicity.

Hypnosis used: Dr. Ben Simon has used "time regression hypnosis" to reconstruct the Hill's story. Under hypnosis, they remembered being kidnapped by humanoid alien beings, taken into a spaceship and later released unharmed. Similar accounts have been told by other abductees, Hastings said.

On Sept. 19, 1976 near Tehran, an aerial dogfight took place between a U.S. F-4 Phantom and several UFO's.

The first UFO resembled "a helicopter with its lights on," Hastings said. The other objects seemed similar to stars but much larger and brighter.

The F4 pilot reported losing instrument control and communications during pursuit of the UFO and was unable to keep up with the objects. This encounter was well-documented, and tracked on radar.

Documents recovered: Hundreds of declassified documents have been recovered from the FBI using the Freedom of Information Act. In a memo to J. Edgar Hoover, March 22, 1950, entitled, *Three Saucers Recovered in New Mexico*, the government admitted recovering physical evidence of a UFO crash. The object made a crater 50 feet in diameter. Three occupants, only three feet tall, wearing metallic spacesuits were reported to be dead inside the vehicle. A high-power military radar installation near the site was believed to have interfered with the operation of these saucers, thus causing the crash.

These documents may be obtained for a donation, by writing to

Fund for UFO Research, PO Box 277, Mt. Rainier, Md. 20712.

Books to read on this subject include *UFO's, Interplanetary Visitors*, by Raymond Fowler; *We Are Not Alone*, by James Hilton; and *UFO's: A Scientific Debate*, by Carl Sagan.



UFO lecture

Steve Mills photo

Robert Hastings gave a lecture recently at NECC on the hidden story of UFO sightings.

Attendance: *current policy serves its purpose*

By RACHEL S. WIDGER
Observer Features Editor

Most staff members agree attendance contributes to student success, but attendance policies vary.

The policy for class attendance is totally up to the instructor of that class, but at least three absences must be allowed.

Mary Harada, professor, history & government dept., said she generally takes attendance by sending around a sheet to be signed by the students.

Acceptable excuse: Harada said more than three absences may result in students being dropped from the course if they do not provide an acceptable excuse for their absences.

"The problems that I have with students are those who come to class episodically without ever speaking to me about why they are absent. The ones who come and talk to me are usually the ones who are concerned about the work. Certainly, I would never drop a student if they have a legitimate reason, although legitimate or otherwise they still have the responsibility of doing the work," Harada said.

"I don't have a strict policy that says if you miss three hours you're history. I think that in this kind of school, where people work and have a lot of other responsibilities, one has to be sensitive to the other pressures in their lives. It's kind of a judgement call," she said.

Selma Singer, professor, behavioral sciences dept., said, theoretically, the policy is that she may drop a student after three or more unexplained absences.

Exchange numbers: She asks her students to exchange telephone numbers so they can call each other for notes if they miss class. Whatever the reason for the absence, they're still responsible for whatever they miss in class.

She, like Harada, feels communication is the key to understanding absences.

Singer said, "I surely understand that there are all kinds of reasons, but if a student just never speaks to me about it and just doesn't show up, then I have to assume, perhaps not correctly, that there wasn't really a good reason for it."

James Gustafson, professor, foreign languages dept., tells students that he may drop them on the fourth absence, probably will on the fifth, and almost certainly will after six.

Strict policy: "I don't usually accept excuses after the fifth absence unless it's a hospitalization or something long term that goes

Mary Prunty

"I think the college has a responsibility in terms of setting standards and, within that, we try to be fair."

"Our expectation is that a student would go to every class because there's something to be learned from the class. However, within that we also feel that instructors, because they are the ones who are teaching the class, set within their own syllabuses those guidelines for their classes."

through the dean's office. I think that's what the three absences, or possibly four or five, are supposed to cover," he said.

Norm Landry, dean of student affairs, is a firm believer in attendance.

He said, "I feel that attendance is important and that each teacher should have an attendance policy and pay attention to it. I think it increases your chances of success in a course if you show up, listen, take notes and ask questions. I think most teachers believe strongly that attendance is important."

He said 90 percent of attendance complaints are from students who think the attendance policy is too rigid. He said 80 percent of the time somebody is just trying to get away with not being in class, but 20 percent of the time students may possibly have legitimate reasons for being absent.

Class disruption: Mark Chabot, liberal arts, said, "On one hand, I don't think I have to go to every class because I can succeed without doing so. On the other hand, it's probably not a good idea because it may disrupt the class structure. It sets a bad example for the other students."

Landry said, "My advice to a student is if the teacher wanted you to be in class, I'd be there. I don't think it would prevail easily if you were arguing, 'Hey, I'm smart, I don't have to go to class.' I think it's a tough argument to win. If the teacher wants you to be there, and that's the attendance policy, that's part of earning your grade, and you'd better be there."

"There are students who attend class and meet the attendance policy, and they're very resentful of students that they know cut class and get away with it. That's the other angle on this," he said.

the class. That's a waste of the teacher's time and their time."

College responsibility: Mary Prunty, assistant dean of academic affairs, said, "I think the college has a responsibility in terms of setting standards and, within that, we try to be fair. Knowing that attendance has tended to be and has been proven to be one of the indicators of success in college, it puts us in a position to have a guideline."

"Our expectation is that a student would go to every class because there's something to be learned from the class. However, within that we also feel that instructors, because they are the ones who are teaching the class, set within their own syllabuses those guidelines for their classes," she said.

"If we provided no guidance, we would be remiss in terms of policies. What we've found through the years is what works, what doesn't work, and that's where our standards come from. I have never found instructors that aren't understanding if students let them know what is going on."

"We have no way of knowing why someone doesn't come to class unless they tell us. That is why we have to have some kind of guidelines around that issue or else we'd have chaos," Prunty said.

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Dissection proves hot topic

By ROBYN TOWNSEND
Observer Staff Reporter

Frogs are your friends. At least that's what one high school student felt at Victor Valley High School in Victorville, California back in 1987. And that's why she protested when she was told she had to dissect a frog in her biology class.

Jennifer Graham's protests brought her national attention and led to the nation's first state law protecting a student's right not to dissect. It also resulted in a toll free dissection hotline which was started by Graham's mother, Pat and the Animal Legal Defense Fund (ALDF).

Free handbook: The hotline gives callers information on alternatives to dissection and provides a free handbook which outlines an eight-step plan for refusing to dissect. In addition, they refer callers to local attorney's for help.

Joyce Tischler, executive director of ALDF said, "We believe all students have the right to study animal life without desecrating it. We are trying to arm students with information that will help them exercise that right."

At NECC, students are not forced to dissect.

Anatomy and Physiology teacher Ken Holden, said, "I don't force anyone to do it (dissect) who really doesn't like to do it."

Holden does require students to observe and understand the dissection process,

however.

Various problems: "I think most biologists, myself included, are certainly quite aware of the various problems even with dissecting animals that are not alive, never mind the work that goes on with live animals."

Holden said he doesn't use live animals in his classes.

"There are no live animals (at NECC) as far as I know, used at all in any of the biology classes," he said.

Holden said there aren't many alternatives to dissection available through the college now, but a computer program may be available to students soon. At this time, students have photos, pictures and overhead material available.

Holden said students grades won't be effected if they don't dissect.

Not graded: "They take exams on what they see and identify structures, but they don't actually get graded on their dissecting techniques. They don't lose points if they don't dissect because they are not graded on the actual dissection," he said.

Holden can remember people who almost fainted when they first saw a pig fetus.

"There are just some people that have difficulty with that, and I'm not going to knock them out of a whole class because of that difficulty," he said.

Holden requests students with reservations about dissecting to talk to him before taking the course.



Unwanted animals in search of a home

By ED BRADLEY
Observer Staff Reporter

"Give me the gift of life."

These could have been the words interpreted from the meows of the red tabbie, a three month-old kitten, as she reached her paws through the bars of the cage imprisoning her.

Further down the cold, concrete corridor, a four month-old black and white Boxer dog sat motionless in his cage with a look of fear and abandonment in his eyes.

The "gift of life" these and thousands of other animals need is something most humans take for granted, a home.

Gift of life: The chore of finding these abandoned animals a home has become the responsibility of organizations like the Merrimack Valley Animal Shelter in Lowell, Mass. and the Northeast Animal Shelter in Salem, Mass.

In many instances, the placement into a home is indeed a "gift of life" because, as stated by the Merrimack Valley Animal Shelter, if the animal is not adopted, it is "humanely put to sleep."

Julie Potter, general manager of the Northeast Animal Shelter, said they operate on a different policy where if the animal is not adopted, it is returned to the original owner.

The national rate for animal placement is

about 15 percent. The Merrimack Valley Animal Shelter's rate is better than 25 percent of the 8,000 animals handled each year, while The Northeast Animal Shelter boasts a 100 percent placement of the 3,500 animals it handles each year. In May, June and July, the Lowell shelter placed 602 animals.

Varying reasons: There are many reasons for the number of unwanted animals. The main reason, according to both shelters, is people don't have their animals spayed or neutered and allow them to roam freely. In other cases, the owner has moved, and the pet isn't allowed at the new location or the owner has developed an allergy to the animal.

Fees for animal adoption vary at each shelter and include different services. At Northeast, the fee is between \$25 and \$85, depending on the type of animal. The price includes the animal's first shots and spaying or neutering.

At Merrimack, the fee is between \$50 and \$75, including a free check-up by a veterinarian and a \$10 refund if the animal is spayed or neutered within six months of purchase.

For this small price, a person can become the beneficiary of many years of pleasure and enjoyment associated with the company of a loving, dedicated companion.

Not only do these pets provide companionship and enjoyment, but

psychologists say animals provide many mental health benefits.

"Laughter is the best medicine" is a saying many people have heard. Who hasn't found themselves with a smile on their face, or laughter in their voice at the sight of a cat

jumping around in a paper bag?

In today's world, when everything appears to be changing (jobs, friends, lifestyles etc.), the pet never changes, thus giving its owner some satisfaction that at least one thing in his or her life remains constant.

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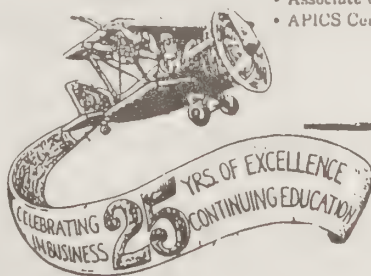
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It's more than a stare-down between Saddam Hussein and George Bush. More than just "another crisis" in the Middle East.

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Can we resist the demand for quick answers and the desire to find someone to blame? Are we able to recognize and appreciate the many complexities of this historic drama? Can we find a reasonable solution to the near-term crisis and also sow the seeds of long-term solutions that will respect the people of all nations? That is the challenge.

The world has entered a new era. There is a new vitality, strength and sense of purpose in the United Nations. Today, the presidents of the United States and the Soviet Union, enemies for decades, meet in Helsinki in search of common answers to global problems.

The current crisis in the Persian Gulf offers a remarkable possibility for the leaders of nations, the people of nations, and the United Nations, to explore together new ways of resolving conflict which do not involve war or violence and which respond to the legitimate interests and rights of all.

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Mexican festival

Las Posadas celebration provides fun for all

By PROF. DONALD CONWAY
Observer Guest Contributor

Christmas time is one of the most fun times of the year in Mexico. The season unofficially begins with the Virgin of Guadalupe Day, Dec. 12, and ends Jan. 6, the Feast of the Epiphany, better known in Mexico as the Three Kings Day. Throughout this time, parties abound.

Las Posadas is a special type of party or fiesta in Mexico. Posada literally means lodging or shelter. Las Posadas dates back to the popular myth that Joseph and Mary spent nine days looking for shelter once they arrived in Bethlehem. And so, for nine consecutive evenings, ending on Christmas Eve, there are parties taking place all over the Mexican Republic.

Although, as with many other customs in Mexico, the Posada was originally an export from Spain, no Spanish or foreign import entered Mexico untouched. Mexican Posadas, therefore, possess a flavor all their own.

Traditional ritual: Of course, in cosmopolitan Mexico City, most Posadas now have become just an excuse for having nine straight evenings of parties, but in some places, especially in the smaller towns, the Posada and all of its rituals still follow tradition.

Usually it is a neighborhood event. Every evening the Posada takes place in a different home and the family living the farthest away begins the ceremony. Sometimes two children are chosen, one to represent Joseph and the other to represent Mary. The young girl is placed on a donkey, and the boy playing

Don Conway

"Throughout this time, parties abound."

Joseph leads her through the streets. Oftentimes the pilgrims are accompanied by musicians playing flutes, guitars, violins or other instruments.

And so, beginning on Dec. 16, the procession sets off a little after nightfall. Arriving at the first door, they knock and sing the songs of the Posada, asking the people inside the house to give them shelter. The folks inside the house sing back that this is not an inn, and they will not open their doors to strangers. Those outside reiterate their plea for lodging and again are rebuffed.

Those inside the house then join the procession and everyone heads off to the next door. Again, shelter is asked and again the pilgrims are turned away. Those inside the house then join the growing procession and everyone marches to the next home.

Doors opened: This continues until they reach the final destination. Again the songs begging for shelter are sung, and again the procession is told to go away, but those outside continue. Finally, those inside sing out, asking if those at the door are Mary and Saint Joseph. When they are told that, yes, the Holy Family is at their door step and in need of lodging, the doors are flung open and everyone enters the house.

Of course, there are more songs to sing. Candles are passed out and the guests are invited to tour the house, going from room to room. The procession ends at the Nacimiento, or the nativity scene, which in Mexico is an elaborate affair taking up over half the living room and many times containing over 200 figures representing scenes from the life of Christ.

The pilgrims stand before the nativity and sing *Ave Marias* and other Christmas carols. Afterwards, refreshments are served and soon it is time for breaking the Pinata.

On Christmas Eve the Posadas are sung for the final time. The evening is filled with dancing and singing until midnight, when it is discovered that the Christ child has been born. He is taken up and dressed in special clothing and then is passed around the room while prayers are recited and songs are sung.

He will then be carried to the Nacimiento and placed in the manger. Later, when the guests leave, they sing a lullaby and a song of departure. Finally, they all sing their way to the nearest church to attend the Misa del Gallo (Midnight Mass or Mass of the Rooster).

Holiday safety

Firefighter warns about electrical hazards caused by wiring problems

By MELINDA SUE DUGAS
Observer Staff Reporter

With the holiday season at hand, people are looking for ways to make them safe from fire and accident and environmentally conscious.

As always, fire safety is a big concern with all the holiday decorations around the house.

Dennis Giangregorio, a local fire-fighter with fifteen years experience, said, "People must understand. The power of a fire is incredible.

About eight minutes and half your house is gone. It's that powerful. And eight minutes is not a long time, especially if you are sleeping."

Saving hints: Giangregorio urges everyone to follow these life saving hints:

▮ Check each string of lights and all electrical cords before putting them on the tree;

▮ Check for breaks in the wires and each socket to see if it is broken or cracked;

▮ If using extension cords, do not place them where they will be walked on;

▮ Do not overload electrical sockets. If it's made to only take two plugs then use only two plugs;

▮ Do not leave lights on while out or sleeping;

▮ Make sure a working ABC fire extinguisher is handy (This all purpose extinguisher will take care of almost any house fire);

▮ Do not burn Christmas wrap in the

stove or fireplace; it is a major cause of chimney fires;

▮ Keep the tree watered at all times, and check it two or three times each day.

"With a little common sense, we can all have a safe and happy holiday," Giangregorio said.

Betty Westland, of Concord, N.H., a self-proclaimed environmentalist, said, "How can you not be thinking of the land, the water, the air.

"Only a damn fool would turn their nose up when they could do something. We can all help."

Westland's suggests these helpful hints.

▮ Use hot air popped popcorn for packing breakables;

▮ Don't use foil wrapping paper. Wrap with recycled or recyclable paper;

▮ Try to get an artificial tree. These don't need chemical fertilizers, and last indefinitely. This also saves fuel, buy not needing transportation every year. If an artificial tree is not available, try one with roots. Then plant it outside after Christmas.

▮ Don't waste landfill space by throwing a tree away. Recycle it. Cut the tips and needles off and use them for sachets. Or chop it up well and use it for garden mulch.

▮ When buying gifts, read the tags and think of these questions. What is this made of? Will it hurt the land, air or water? Can this be recycled or will it last indefinitely? Could a better choice be made?

X-mas customs reflect hundreds of traditions

By MELINDA SUE DUGAS
Observer Staff Reporter

Some sort of Christmas celebration has been going on for 2000 years, but where did Americans get Santa, Christmas cards, and Christmas seals?

Although there are many legends, beliefs, and customs, some historians believe it happened like this.

The birth of Jesus Christ in Bethlehem. A. D. 270-A man named Nicholas was born in Patara, Lycia. This is now part of Turkey. He grew up and became Bishop Nicholas.

343-Bishop Nicholas was made a saint, with a feast day on Dec. 6.

354-Under the Julian calendar, the church decreed to celebrate Christmas on Dec. 25.

1223-St Francis of Assisi displayed the first outdoor manger scene.

1377/1399-Under the English King Richard II the first gifts were given to the needy.

1509/1547-Mincemeat pie becomes popular under King Henry VIII of England.

1600s-Decorated Christmas trees become popular in Germany.

1620-The pilgrims in New England frown on celebrating Christmas and work on the day.

1659-Massachusetts bans Christmas by law, with a five shilling fine for anyone who observes the celebration.

1680-The Massachusetts law is repealed.

1735/1747-The first American Christmas tree in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania.

1800-The start of the artificial tree in Germany. When German law prohibited the cutting of trees for holiday celebrations, these first trees were made of feathers.

1822-*The Visit of St. Nicholas* written by Dr. Clement Moore.

1832-Alabama becomes the first state to legalize Christmas.

1838-Louisiana and Arkansas next legalize Christmas.

1842-Charles Minnegerode brings Christmas tree to Williamsburg, Va. It was decorated with gilded nuts, strings of popcorn and lighted candles.

1856-Christmas is made a legal holiday in Massachusetts. The first tree appears in the

Environmental

concerns for Teddy

1901/1909-President Teddy Roosevelt's concern for ecology pushed conservation of trees and use of artificial ones.

Through the early 1900's artificial trees are used across the country.

White House under president Franklin Pierce from New Hampshire.

1860-Thomas Nast illustrates *The Visit of St. Nicholas* and starts the modern concept of a jolly, round Santa.

1874-Louie Prana starts The first American Christmas card industry in Roxbury, Mass.

1890-Colored gift tissue paper is first used to wrap gifts

1901-Printed gift paper and tags used.

1901/1909-President Teddy Roosevelt's concern for ecology pushed conservation of trees and use of artificial ones. Through the early 1900's artificial trees are used across the country.

1903-Einar Holboell in Denmark comes up with the idea of Christmas seals to help fight tuberculosis.

1923-President Calvin Coolidge has the first lighted national Christmas tree.

1913-Christmas seals used in America.

1927-U. S. Capt. William Wincapaw invents the flying Santa.

1955-The first plastic toys placed on the market.

1960-Currier & Ives Christmas first sold.

1968-The use of Styrofoam and synthetic Christmas trees used for the first time.

1970-Midget lights used in America.

FOOD DRIVE

Nov. 26-Dec. 14

Donate a can or box of food



The Social Club is running a food drive for people who are less fortunate.

Help make this a success!!
Won't you please help?

Dance excites these students

By TRACY PELLETIER
Observer Staff Reporter

Several girls struggle to move in unison to *Ice Ice Baby* (Vanilla Ice). thump. Thump- the basketball can't quite keep up to the music's funky beat.

A dancer aligns her leg with her torso while chatting with friends. Sneakers squeak on the gym's wooden floor as the players desperately try to catch a rebound.

Undaunted by this familiar scenario, members of NECC's dance company continue to perfect their routines. On the other half of the gym, students perfect their basketball game.

Upcoming performance: Elaine Mawhinney, chairperson, dept. of creative arts and dance instructor, calls the women into the dance studio for last minute touch-ups. The pressure is mounting as their performance date is only two days away.

Besides daily practice, there are mandatory rehearsals that start at 7 p.m. and run as late as 1 a.m.

The dancers' reasons for performing range from a desire to get funky to the thrill of the music and power, they said.

Marie Gauthier choreographed routines and danced in the recent performance. Her tranquility belies the edginess she describes as the company faces pre-performance jitters.

"If you have a due date for your dance you can really get stressed out. Now you start to point to people in your group and say 'that's not how I wanted it to look'."

In spite of the tension, they are a closely knit group.

Understanding helps: "If someone blows



R. Townsend photo

MARIE GAUTHIER, Diane LaChance and Gail LaMonica get ready for a recent dance performance.

up at somebody, it goes in one ear and out the other. We all have a dead line," Gauthier said. Jerelyn Lozeau agrees.

"You have to get along to dance together," she said.

Gauthier, who has been dancing since she was three, feels pride can cause schisms in a dance company.

"You have to really want to be doing it, and not have a swelled head. It's really hard to work with somebody in a group when they feel like they're the best thing in the world."

Mawhinney said a dancer with a bad attitude is unprofessional, no matter how much talent they have.

Gauthier said Mawhinney taught her the meaning of theme.

Thematic dancing: "Before, you did a routine. You learned the steps and put it to music. Her dances have a hidden meaning. You have to put style and emotion into your dance," Gauthier said.

Mawhinney said, "Your body is your instrument."

Still Point Dancers

The dancers' reasons for performing range from a desire to get funky to the thrill of the music and power, they said.

Back in the gym, Lozeau twists herself into a difficult position during a routine. Giggling, she gasps "I can't breathe!"

Gauthier feels dancing requires other qualities besides talent.

"You have to be cooperative and be able to work with other people. You have to be flexible. You can't be in a piece and refuse to do certain parts of it," she said.

Some of the performers want to audition for dance companies. Gauthier prefers to teach.

Performing discriminates: "There is too much competition (in performing). They are looking for a certain build. In a lot of companies, all of the people are the same size. There are a lot of people out there who are really natural. They could be dancing for two years and be as good as you or better."

The gym appears deserted. *Ice Ice Baby's* funky beat and the pounding of the basketball no longer compete. Instead, soft music wafts over the heads of the dancers. Stretch, stretch. Slowly down and back up. The dancers have less than two hours to get ready for the performance.

Lebanese native recalls way it used to be

By TAQUA ANNE TURNER
Observer Staff Reporter

"In New York City, the first person I saw was a guy with some kind of Mohawk, earrings all the way up his ears and I thought, this is America."

Elie Merheb of Debayet, Lebanon, has been in the United States for one and a half years. He said no one in Lebanon wears a Mohawk.

Merheb, now residing in Lawrence, attends NECC in the English as a Second Language programs and plans to enter the engineering science program soon.

Small country: Lebanon is a small country of about 3,500 square miles, 130 miles long and 30 miles wide. Smaller than Massachusetts, it has a population of approximately 2.5 million. The war torn country used to be the Switzerland of the Middle East, Merheb said.

"I was 10 years old when the war started 16 years ago, in 1975," Merheb said. "Before, Lebanon was a beautiful country."

But today survival is hard in Lebanon, and it is very hard to leave, Merheb said. Before the war, \$1 was equal to two Lebanese pounds, but today a dollar is equal to 1,000 Lebanese pounds. A monthly salary in Lebanon is typically 50,000 to 100,000 pounds per month, equaling approximately \$50 to \$100 to survive on each month.

"This situation worsens every

year," Merheb said.

War-torn country: The war in Lebanon started in 1975 as a civil war between the right-wing Christian Lebanese Front and the left-wing Lebanese National Movement.

Syria has become involved in the war first on the Christian side and currently on the Muslim side.

Presently, Syria has over 40,000 troops that control 60 percent of Lebanon, Merheb said.

Israel controls 20 percent of southern Lebanon where the Israelis and Palestinians are fighting.

According to *TIME* magazine, 15,000 Palestinian guerrillas or terrorists are currently in the area of the city of Sidon, approximately 50 miles south of Beirut.

According to *TIME* reporter Lisa Beyer, even Syrian troops do not dare venture to Sidon.

Terrorists action: "I would like to make the point that the Palestinians were not born terrorists," Merheb said.

"Terrorism is cause and effect. The Palestinians lost their homeland. I believe when someone comes in and takes your country, you fight for your freedom - it is not terrorism."

"If I lose my country, I'm going to become one of those terrorists," Merheb said.

About two months ago, former Christian president General Michel Aoun was



S. Mills photo
ELIE MERHEB, NECC student.

overthrown and Christian Dany Chamoun and his family were murdered by Syrian forces. Aoun has been replaced by President Elias Hrawi.

Dozens of Soldiers commanded by Aoun were allegedly shot at close range by Syrian forces. France has asked the United Nations to investigate.

Creating fear: These two events have caused fear in the Lebanese Christians.

The guaranteed "safe" area or greenline section allotted to Christians in Beirut may no longer be guaranteed by the Pro-Syrian government, Merheb said.

"Many people that supported Aoun fled to Cyprus."

He added, many of the Christian people fear they may have been killed like Chamoun and his family or taken to Maze.

Maze, a famous prison in Syria is where prisoners of conscience are taken, Merheb said.

Thousands disappeared: "Thousands and

thousands have disappeared since the start of the war," Merheb said. "Families of the disappeared cannot do anything about this

situation - they can't fight or they, too, will become disappeared."

"Many families decide their disappeared are dead," Merheb said. "People have no idea about the welfare of their loved ones. Everyone who has disappeared is found in Maze - the rest are dead."

There are no longer civil liberties in Lebanon, Merheb said.

"I would go back to Lebanon if the war ended," Merheb said. "I love my country, but the Middle East's problems spread around many countries, Israel, Syria, Iraq, Iran, Lebanon and other world countries."

Foreign policy: "When Palestine lost their country 20 years ago, the United States didn't interfere. When Turkey invaded Cyprus, the United States didn't interfere."

And the United States does not interfere in my country, but when Kuwait was invaded, the United States sent troops over immediately.

"The United States policy treats many different people very differently. During the Iran and Iraq war, the United States was allied with Iraq; today, the United States is fighting Iraq - it's politics."

"Now a lot of people are going to die in war, because the United States is concerned with oil. Crazy politics."

"Everyday, someone from my family in Lebanon dies or has disappeared. Why doesn't the U.S. interfere over there?"

Women's roles change in war torn Middle East nation

By TAQUA ANNE TURNER
Observer Staff Reporter

Women's roles in Lebanon have been traditionally restricted to homemaker, mother and wife. Today, their roles are beginning to modernize. Both Muslim and Christian women are entering the work force in Lebanon because of the number of men in combat.

Vera Elchahem, a young Christian woman from Beirut, has lived with her family in the United States for three years. She presently attends NECC's dental hygiene program.

Christian women probably are becoming more independent than the Muslim women, Merchahem said.

Some Muslim women still wear veils, but many women attend college, work and are concerned with their career.

Importance of family: "Many women still



S. Mills photos
VERA ELCHAHEM, NECC student.

do care about carrying the culture, though," she said.

The family structure is of primary importance in Lebanese culture.

"Family is very important to me," Elchahem said.

"Children do not go out on their own at age 18; the family remains responsible for the children."

The Lebanese family is very patriarchal; the father is the head of the household.

Children, especially males, are very important in the Lebanese family structure.

Marriage traditions: Some Lebanese girls still marry young, Elchahem said. "My mother married at 16 and a half."

Marriage is beginning to become more of a romantic, personal contract, Elchahem said. In Lebanon, marriage used to be more of a status, prominence and reproductive contract.

The family's approval of the future husband is still very crucial, Elchahem said.

If the family does not approve of a daughter's fiancé, she is prevented from seeing him. But the final decision is with the girl.

Elchahem does not think she would marry an American.

"A Lebanese man is more proper for me; it would be easier for both of us because of culture, language and our family's approval." Elchahem wants to wait until she has an

education and career before considering marriage.

Moral restrictions: Many girls do not date in Lebanon, Elchahem said.

Premarital sex and living together before marriage is considered shameful and does not happen often, Elchahem said.

"If an unmarried woman becomes pregnant, she is in big trouble with the family," she said.

"Even though there is the war, I want to go to Lebanon to see my relatives, friends."

Misses homeland: Elchahem is not sure if she would return to Lebanon permanently, however.

"This is hard to decide. My family is here in America, and some are citizens."

My family would like to buy a house in Lebanon and spend the summers there. If there was peace."

Sub time

Haverhill's five tastiest sandwich spots reviewed

By ZACHARY SIMMONS
Observer Staff Reporter

Haverhill has well over 30 restaurants. More than 20 of these are sub and sandwich shops. Each institution has its own formula for success. Many are similar, but all have at least one angle that makes them unique.

Sticking with subs and sandwiches (pizza is a complicated and personal topic with many people), five places in town stand above the rest. Other places were close behind.

The five are presented in alphabetical order. Aunties' Baked Sandwiches earns its spot on the top five with ease. Aunties' was opened last December by Cathy Ruth. It's open 11 to 11 everyday, and they deliver at lunch and at night. Aunties' is located on 17 South Main Street, Bradford, next to Wendy's.

Unique sandwiches: Baked inside of fresh dough in three sizes, come 24 varieties of sandwiches. They make the standard steak and cheese, Italian and meatball subs, all exceptional. Aside from the classics, their menu features varieties such as Mexican, broccoli and cheese, and chicken pot pie subs.

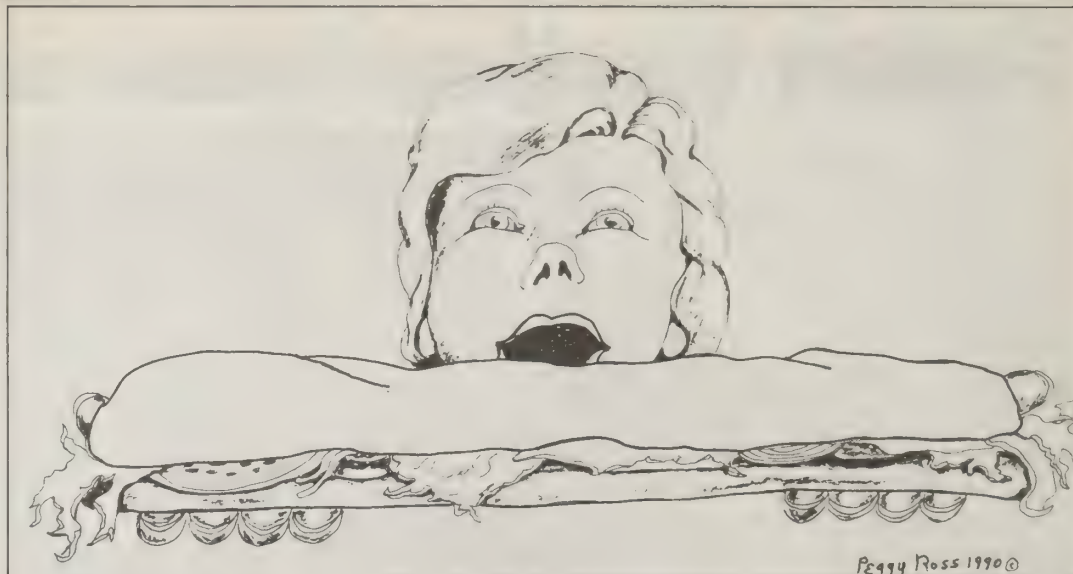
They also have pizza baked sandwiches in pepperoni, sausage, and cheese varieties. All of their baked sandwiches include a choice of tomatoes, onions, peppers, olives, jalapenos, hot peppers, and mushrooms.

Also on the menu are cold subs, which run in two sizes as well as in syrian bread. If watching calories, get on their weight loss program. Choose either a syrian roll-up or salad from the low-cal menu, including hot chicken and broccoli, a standout on that menu.

Aunties' also serves pizza. Their large cheese is priced at \$4. Most of their subs cost under \$5.

Located on 350 Washington Street in Haverhill is Benedetti's Deli, home of the Rocket. With an average cost of \$4 for a 24 inch sub, Benedetti's (called Bobo's by many) finds itself in the top five.

Family business: Benedetti's was opened in 1983 by Molly and Mary Benedetti, the mother and wife respectively of Joe Benedetti, the current owner. Joe now runs the shop with his son, Marc. Benedetti's opens at 5



Food Review

a.m., and closes between 6 and 7 p.m.

There are three different kinds of Rockets, regular and specialty. These include Italians, roast beef, egg salad, turkey, and ham and cheese. For specialty subs, they offer "The Stud" with turkey, roast beef and swiss cheese; the "Julius Caesar" with cappicola, Genoa salami, mortadella, cooked salami, and provolone; the "Mark Anthony" with lettuce, tomatoes, hot peppers, pickles, mushrooms, onions, cappicola, cooked salami, prosciutto, and provolone; and the meatless "Cleopatra."

Seafood Rockets, with lobster, Alaskan crabmeat, and tuna, are also popular. The last of the Rockets are the Hot Rockets, including homemade sausage and meatball.

Aside from the subs, Benedetti's has a mouth-watering deli, with Italian meals such as lasagna and stuffed peppers. If one has little money and want lots of food, head for Benedetti's.

Local star: Chick's Roast Beef has roast beef sandwiches that will make you cry, securing their position on the top five. Located on 1124 South Main Street, Bradford (near Aunties'), they deliver to the Haverhill area.

Chick's was opened in 1983 by Archie Kastrinakis, and in 1987 Charlie Vlahos took over.

To start with, Chick's has roast beef sandwiches in super, large, and junior sizes, which include mayo, mustard, cheese and all the usual things on a sandwich. Their barbecue sauce puts Chick's on a high pedestal.

Chick's has a varied menu, including hot ham and pastrami, meat and spinach pies, gyros, three kinds of salads, soups, barbecue chicken sandwiches, egg and pizza rolls, chicken fingers, wings and nuggets, fries, rings, burgers, fried mushrooms, mozzarella sticks and homemade baklava.

If this isn't appealing, they have seafood dishes as well.

For variety, but above all, outstanding roast beef sandwiches, Chick's Roast Beef is the place to go.



In July, Cindy Vadeboncoeur opened a D'angelo on 310 Main Street, Haverhill (in Monument Plaza).

D'angelo is famous for its pocket sandwiches. Most of the food is priced under \$4.

Big menu: They have over 45 different kinds of subs, and five different salads. The menu includes sandwiches without syrian in small, medium and large sizes. One sub on this part of the menu, the chicken stir fry, has chunks of chicken grilled with mushrooms, onions, and peppers. Also included are cheese and/or a choice of three sauces: teriyaki, honey mustard or sweet and sour.

Designer Pokkets are their specialty. One highlight is the Number 9, with grilled lean steak, green peppers, mushrooms, onions and melted cheese. Another, the vegetarian pokket, comes with a combination of melted Wisconsin, white and provolone cheese. The Greek pokket, with Feta cheese, black olives and Greek dressing, is a delicious change.

If looking for something bigger than their pokkets, try The Great Divide, a 29 inch Italian, tuna, American, ham and cheese, seafood salad, or roast beef sub.

Another treat, Chip's Ice Cream, includes a delicious variety of ice creams and frozen yogurts.

Since the early '70s, Mediterranean Pizza & Subs has been the dominant pizza and sub shop in Haverhill. Putting their delicious pizza aside, Mediterranean's large selection of simply great food and subs puts this veteran in the top five.

Strong selection: Their subs come in one size (large) and they run about \$4. They have the standard selection of excellent subs, including a superior steak bomb, a hearty burger sub, chicken finger sub, and succulent gyros.

Med's serves chicken finger and wing plates with fries and a salad. They also offer homemade soups and spaghetti dinners.

Two other outstanding dishes including their salads and meat pies. The salads are huge and the meatpies are homemade.

Med's menu also offers onion rings, fries, chicken fingers and wings, fried mushrooms, and burger specials (with fries). They also have seafood plates and boxes, including shrimp.



Life Long Learning music program

J. Benoit photo

Pianist Michael Kramer performed an afternoon concert as part of the NECC Life Long Learning Program recently. The concert included music by Chopin, Gottshalk, Rachmaninoff, Gershwin, Joplin, and Debussy.

A resident of Newburyport, Kramer has performed extensively in the New England area as a recitalist and soloist with orchestras, including the Boston Pops. He also has appeared at Carnegie Hall in New York.

For many years, he has been on the staff of the Boston University Tanglewood Institute, and he also serves on the NECC faculty.

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Student activity fee increases



Holiday cheer

NECC STAFF, along with President John R. Dimitry, right, decorate the campus Christmas tree.

M. Taylor photo

(continued from page one)
need to be addressed.

"I think there are a lot of clubs on campus that either have too much money or they're not doing enough to mandate the monies that they're getting.

"They are not following the rules, they don't have advisers, and they don't have active participation."

Unnecessary positions: Hosty said, "In athletics, there are a few positions that are unnecessary or could be trimmed."

Because the activity budget stands to gain \$32,000 from the fee increase, the senate made several revisions in club allocations for the spring semester.

One area which has overwhelming senate support is the weight lifting room. If the senate's revised budget is approved, it stands to receive \$5,000 in new funding.

Michaud said some senate members may be serving their own interests when allocating student activity funds for the weight room.

Motives questioned: "I do think it's a problem. I think they're on the borderline in all fairness. There's no question that because of the influence of the student senate that money is going to this area.

"I think it's wrong if it doesn't serve the interests of the students, but I think it is serving the interests of the students."

Turner said the senate's system of allocating funds to clubs is biased.

"The senate is blind to what the students want. I think a lot of the student senators are just going after what they want."

Fair figures: Dimitry said, "I've got to hope that these individuals somehow had a pretty good sense of what those figures represented.

"You hope that in the aggregate that somehow the self-interest, and the pig headedness, and the pork barreling, and the special interest line items are somehow balanced out for the greatest good and the greatest number (of students)."

Hosty said, "Any club or organization that is serving the students as an activity and is doing well and has the ability to expand deserves more money.

"These figures aren't etched in stone. They may change when the actual budget process goes on. For now, this is where the money stands."

Fee support: Hosty believes the student body supports the fee increase.

"I've talked to a lot of the students and they would rather see the increase and have more of the facilities available.

"I don't think it's going to hurt anyone when you're talking about paying \$1,000, give or take \$10 or \$15. I really don't think it will hurt each individual student. I'm voting yes in their best interest."

Hosty said he would like to see students better utilize the activities available on campus.

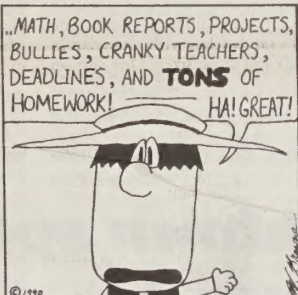
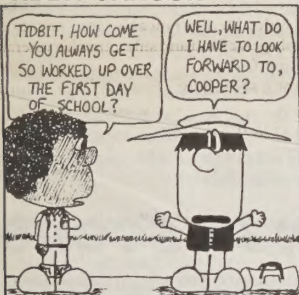
Bad attitude: "The biggest problem we have is people believing that it's a community college, and we shouldn't bother trying to have fun here.

"It's our job to try and interest the students in the school while they're here and maybe get them to participate in activities after school."

Turner said, "For the most part, most people don't know what exists on campus. There is so much student apathy here.

"It's a community college, the largest percentage of people go to classes. That's it, then they go home."

TIDBIT CAHOON



BY WAYNE BROWNE



At that moment it dawned on the art professor as to why his class had not progressed in figure painting.

BONKERS



by peg ross

Comic corner



"THERE'S SOMETHING YOU DON'T SEE EVERYDAY IRVING"



S. DEAN 90

Superstitions

Many athletes from college to pro's affected by several strange beliefs

By LAURA A. MIGLIORI
Observer Sports Editor

With three seconds remaining in the second half, the girls basketball team is losing 24-22. A time out is called and a player drops to the floor and completes 25 push-ups. She returns to the court and scores a three pointer to win the game.

This didn't actually happen, but it displays the effect of superstitions. In previous games, the player most likely did 25 push-ups and believed it improved her play.

Improving play: In all sports, many athletes have superstitions which sometimes dominate the action.

They follow a routine they believe will better their play or bring luck to their team.

An article in *Sports Illustrated* said superstitions have been around since the Neanderthals. Sketchings on cave walls show them stepping carefully over foul lines.

It also says some athletes turn to superstition for the same reasons that others turn to religion or drugs: to relieve pressure and eliminate the fear of making mistakes or losing.

Common beliefs: In baseball, it's bad luck for the pitcher to strike out the first batter and to cross bats. Also, the first base coach may kick first base before entering coaches box, so the team won't have bad luck.

A popular sports superstition is not washing the uniform worn during a winning streak because it will wash away good luck.

Many football superstitions involve equipment. Basketball centers on clothing, boxing on hexes or curses, and golfers on colors and coins.

Superstitions from famous athletes include:
□ L.A. King Wayne Gretzky tucks the right side of his shirt behind his hip pad.

□ Boston Celtic Larry Bird rubs his hand on his sneakers before practice. He said it gives him a better feel for the ball.

□ Tennis great John McEnroe taps water-coolers.

□ Mario Andretti, like other race car drivers, considers the color green bad.

□ Buffalo Bills Jim Kelly vomits before a game for good luck.

□ Marvin Johnson, three-time heavy-weight champion, never washes in the 24 hours before a fight.

Strict follower: The most famous for having strict superstitions is Boston Red Sox third baseman Wade Boggs. He eats chicken everyday and follows a set schedule on game days:

3:30 p.m.- Sits in front of locker and changes into uniform.

4 p.m.- Goes to the dugout and sits down.

4:15 p.m.- Takes grounders for 20 to 25 minutes.

4:35 or 4:40 p.m.- Ends grounder drill by stepping on third, second and first, in that order. Takes two steps in first base coaching box and sprints to the dugout in four steps. Gets a drink of water and jogs to centerfield for meditation.

Just before infield practice, he stands or sits in the runway between the clubhouse and dugout and tosses a baseball against the wall.

While in the on-deck circle, Boggs arranges pine tar, weighted donut and resin in a precise way. Upon stepping into batter's box he draws a Chai (Hebrew symbol for life).

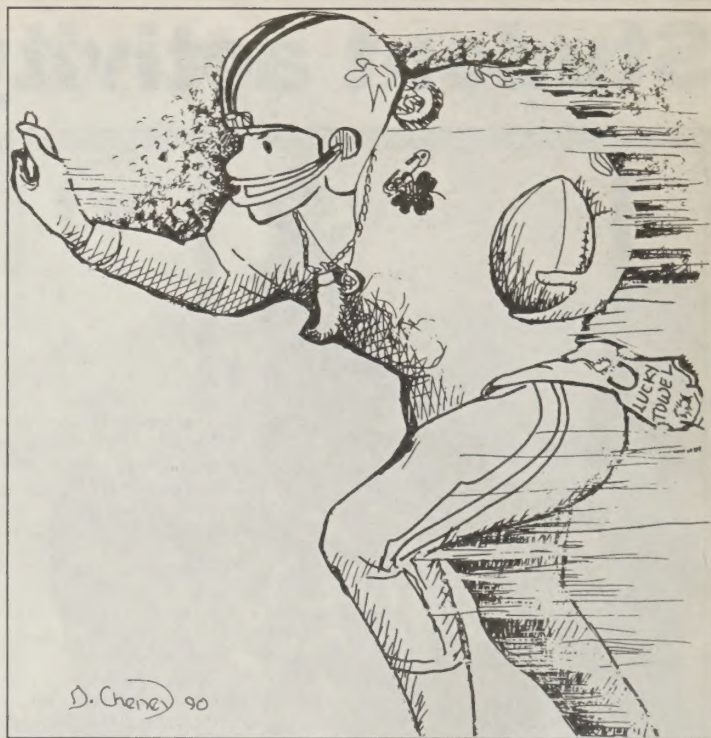
Religious factor: Many NECC athletes also have such superstitions. Some said it's a strict belief, but most said it's just a faith they've coined as a good luck charm.

For example, Knights' basketball guard Ed Rovira always wears his cross. Before a game, he takes it off, kisses it and puts it in his locker.

Lady Knights guard Jen Defeo has become very religious. After a pep talk by the coach, she prays, and before a game, she only takes a few shots. When she hits baskets repeatedly, she'll stop.

"It makes me nervous, I don't think I'll do well," Defeo said.

Familiar routine: She also said when the team is excited about a game and shows it



wants to win, she plays better.

Donna Johnson, Lady Knights assistant coach, followed a routine when she played in 1981-82 for the Knights.

When attempting a foul shot, she'd spin the ball as she bounced it, and then she'd line up her fingers exactly with the lines on the basketball.

"I felt it was bad luck if I didn't do it," Johnson said. "Even when I play now, I do it."

Right feeling: Bert Berthiaume, professor, electronic technology and engineering, said when he's foul shooting, he lines his fingers up also, but bounces the ball three times.

"If I don't, I don't feel right," he said.

Kim Knapp, Lady Knights guard, said during high school varsity softball, the clothing she wore in a winning game, she'd wear again to win the next game.

The Lady Knights have a team mascot they call "Pinky," a pink, plastic troll-type

figure they place on the dashboard of their bus.

Team mascot: Forward Heather Preston said before an away game, they tag it as their mascot and then win the game.

Women's head coach Mike Thistle said when he played basketball in college, his method was eating a plain steak sub exactly three hours before a game.

Also, he would be the last person to do a layup in the layup-line and he had a Yosemite Sam doll as a team mascot.

Sentimental value: As coach, he makes sure he wears a certain handkerchief which was given to him in 1979 by his head coach in college. He said it has sentimental value.

"Superstitions are something out of the ordinary," Thistle said. "All athletes have them; they're like mental idiosyncrisms."

"When a superstition doesn't work, an athlete can just get another one. They're like fair-weather friends."

Media take fun out of Beantown sports scene

By BRIAN CORRIGAN
Observer Staff Reporter

In the annals of professional sports in America, Boston sport teams go unmatched in success, excitement, and folklore. Year after year, one of Boston's four major teams either wins a championship or comes very close. The year 1990 proved to be no exception.

In retrospect, however, 1990 was a year to forget. The sports media has created a circus in which off the field personalities, contract disputes, and locker room etiquette overshadow—no, dominate—the on field, on court heroics of Beantown's beloved teams and players.

Where could two of the greatest athletes of all time in their respective sports be so afraid of the media that they refuse to give any comment? Only in Boston.

Quiet hero: Case 1. At the beginning of last season, Larry Joe Bird—the Living Legend of Basketball, personification of Celtic Pride and Garden Mystique over the last decade, the central figure of the team which (along with L.A.) dominated the 1980s, the man who (along with Magic Johnson) is considered primarily responsible for the tremendous popularity the N.B.A. has gained in the '80s—refused to speak to the media and actually questioned his own worth to the Celtics.

The dilemma arose amidst speculation by several members of the Boston press that Larry's days as an N.B.A. star were over, and that a trade for younger legs would be in the best interest of a team plagued with relative old age and lack of speed. Clearly, as his withdrawal suggests, this hurt deeply.

Returning from the self-proclaimed worst year of his life, during which he recuperated from bone spur surgery to both heels and watched from the bench as his teammates filtered to a 42-40 record and early playoff exit, Bird found criticism rather than

confidence. The same media personalities who had ridden his back to national recognition during the glory days were now riding a new bandwagon.

Media tampering: To compound the issue, the media created a locker room depththroat in the form of Jim Paxson, a disgruntled veteran who had been a star in Portland before his pine-warming days in Boston. Though it was never made official, the media found it convenient to leak that a "Celtic veteran" had made derogatory comments toward Bird.

This was a cheap way to create excitement to sell a newspaper. Fortunately, it was not enough to dismay Bird from regaining his old form and making a serious bid for M.V.P. in the latter half of the season.

Case 2. Roger Clemens—the Rocket Man, two-time Cy Young Award winner and undeniably the most dominant pitcher in baseball over the past five years—will speak to the media only after he pitches. Clearly, there is something wrong with that.

When Bruce Hurst, Clemens' fellow ace and close friend, fled the Red Sox in 1988 for sunnier skies in San Diego, Clemens took the opportunity to air out a few of his grievances with the Red Sox organization and to reflect upon the often difficult life as an athlete in Boston. The following morning, Clemens was transformed from hero to villain by the Boston media.

Spoiled child: The greatest pitcher in baseball was now considered a spoiled child, Boston hater and ingrate. On opening day of the following season, Clemens was booed for the first time in his life by the fans who previously had received nothing short of excellence from him.

The man whose work ethic and legendary physical fitness routines are unrivalled in baseball was hurt. The man who throws so hard that his shoulder muscles require de-

Observer Column

knotting after every performance would never be the same.

Roger Clemens, like Bird, is not the most articulate athlete in sports. Often he comes across as brash, cocky, and unfriendly. But his performances on the field, like Bird's, are spectacular, and the true sports fan knows this.

In 1990, the Rocket Man's main engine finally blew. He began the second half of the season with a string of Cy Young-type performances, going 8-1 with a 1.90 E.R.A. and carried the Red Sox into an early meeting with the World Champion A's.

In a game hyped as Clemens vs. the mighty A's, a preview of the October A.L. playoffs, Clemens blew-out his shoulder and the Red Sox were routed. The following day, a feature article by *Sports Illustrated* on Clemens was scratched, and Clemens was once again trashed by the Boston media.

At some point this winter, Roger Clemens will be made the highest paid player in baseball. He deserves it. Clemens is the juggernaut of a franchise that has not won a World Series since 1918 and may not win one until 2018. His frustrations were clearly vented this year when he blew up at umpire Terry Cooney on national television in a game which completed an embarrassing sweep of the Sox by Oakland. Let the man pitch.

At some point in time, the Boston sports media realized the power they actually possess over the rabid sports fan in this area. Suddenly they became bigger than the sports themselves. Either Bob Ryan's larger (and handsomer) than life personal column mug shot is getting bigger or *The Globe* is making shorter pages.

New celebrities: Bob Lobel has reported on so many arbitration cases that he decided to hold out for a better contract himself. He

now makes \$600,000 per year for five minutes of talk a day, Monday through Friday.

"I Like Mike" commercials for Channel Five's Mike Lynch have hit the airwaves. Sports talk shows are popping up everywhere. Clearly, there is something wrong here.

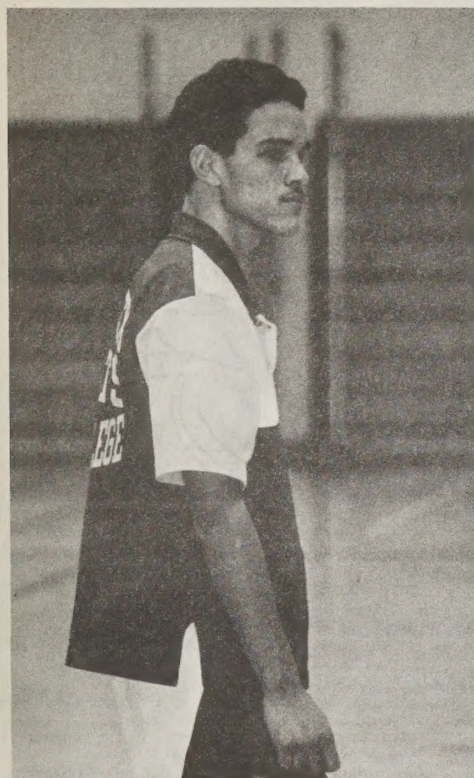
What the media has created in this area is nothing short of a farce. Sporting events of any significance are hyped to the point of fan hysteria. Playoff matches are likened to wars. Opposing teams are villified through exaggerations and overblown falsehoods. Home teams are knighted by the press and sent off to do battle with the hopes and dreams of their loyal followers squarely on their shoulders. Sometimes they win. Sometimes they don't.

In either case, they lose. In Boston, a player is only as good as his last performance. Joy is only achieved by constant winning—a virtual impossibility in this day and age due to the draft system, which rewards the worst with the best picks. Eventually, every winner must give up the title. This is a fact of life that has escaped the grasp of sports fans in this area, and it is the media's fault.

Important aspect: Sports are an integral part of American society. The benefits of physical fitness and the lessons learned by participating go a long way in making life that much more enjoyable.

Professional sports began out of necessity and the desire of athletes to see their favorite games be played at the highest possible level of skill. In the past quarter century, the popularity of professional sports has grown to replace many other activities as prime entertainment, and its stars have often reached demigod status.

Unlike Los Angeles and New York, our sports heroes are the only celebrities in town. The city loves its teams, and this is no crime. At some point, somehow, somewhere fans crossed the line.



M. Taylor photo

ED ROVIRA is having an all-star year playing for the NECC Knights.

New player excels

Lawrence Voc. grad keys Knights' fastbreak

By CHRIS KUCHAR
Observer Staff Reporter

Every basketball team has its offensive and defensive-minded players, but rarely does it have a player who excels in both areas.

Ed Rovira, a guard on the NECC men's basketball team, gives the Knights the best of both worlds.

Rovira, former four-year player at Greater Lawrence Vocational High School, is an engineering major at NECC.

Teachers help: Asked why he chose NECC, Rovira said, "They told me the teachers help you a lot. Also, they were going to get a new basketball coach, and my friend told me he was a good coach so I decided to come here."

Since making that decision, he's evidently made many people on the team happy.

Forward Rich Dube said, "Ed has been playing real well for us. He's the heart of our team right now."

Head coach Mike Rowinski said Rovira is probably the quickest player they've had in years.

"Ed is the key to our fastbreak. When he gets going, he's one of the best one on one players we have," Rowinski said.

Rovira considers himself more of a defensive player while Rowinski is looking for points out of him.

"Ed has good offensive skills; he's a great ballhandler. He's not a pure shooter, but he can put the ball in the hoop," Rowinski said.

Team unity: The team has good unity and seems loose in practice as they go through drills. While each player follows instructions from Rowinski, assistant coach Dick Steele can take a player aside. Ed Rovira is one of those players Steele has no trouble talking to.

Dick Steele

"He's a very coachable player. I'm impressed with what I've seen of Ed. I'm there to take players aside and give them a pat or calm them down. I'd have Ed on any team I was coaching."

"He's a very coachable player. I'm impressed with what I've seen of Ed. I'm there to take players aside and give them a pat or calm them down. I'd have Ed on any team I was coaching," Steele said.

Rovira loves to play the game with a good attitude on the court. When he's playing, whether it's practice or in a game, he always has fun.

After NECC, Rovira hopes to transfer to a Division III four-year college to play basketball.

Rovira thinks the play at this level is quicker and players are bigger and stronger. But, he's been able to handle the new style quite well for the Knights. He scored 18 points in the Knights first win of the season against New Hampshire Vocational Technical Institute (NHVTI).

"We need a lot out of him this year. We need some points consistently from Ed," Rowinski said.

Rest of semester looks good for Knights

By JON MORRIS
Observer Staff Reporter

The NECC men's basketball team evened its record at 3-3 with an 81-75 win over Bunkerhill Community College. Coach Mike Rowinski feels his team is in good position to finish the semester on a high note.

"I don't think there's anybody on our schedule the rest of the semester that we can't beat. We're going to have to play good basketball, but I think we could end at 6-3," he said.

Better defense: If the team is going to do this, they're going to have to play more consistently, especially on defense.

"One of our biggest problems so far has just been giving up too many easy baskets," Rowinski said. "We're concentrating so much on our individual defense that we're not seeing the team concept."

"When we do recognize our team concept, we're stepping too late. By then they're scoring too many easy baskets."

Guard Ed Rovira agrees.

"We play good defense in the second half. We've got to play good defense in the first half," he said.

Knights' loss: In a loss to Southern Maine, the Knights trailed by 18 points in the first half. They cut the lead to three and

ended up losing 79-76.

"Our defense wasn't there," Rowinski said. "It has been in spurts, like the last five minutes. It's not there consistently. In that game, we woke up too late."

"The last five minutes we started playing basketball. We totally dominated, but we just ran out of time."

Forward Bob Lang thinks the team needs work in other areas.

"I think turnovers and foul shots, a little bit," Lang said.

In the win over Bunkerhill, the team sealed up the game at the foul line.

Free throw factor: After leading by as many as 14 points, the Knights were tied up and needed key free throws from Derek Weitz, who led the team with 21 points, to win the game.

The Knights suffered somewhat when they lost leading scorer Eric Freund when his Marine reserve unit received its orders.

Forward Ross Cloutier said, "I think losing Eric really hurts us. Not only do you lose his scoring, but you lose his rebounding."

Cloutier and Tommy Livingston have played key roles since Freund's departure.

Cloutier has played small forward, facing the basket role, but has moved inside.

"Because we lost Eric, we've had to move Cloutier inside, and he's done a good job.

He's picking up some of the slack," Rowinski said.

Livingston adds a different dimension to the team.

Three-point range: Rowinski said, "He gives us a little bit more offensive ability. He's got decent size, 6 feet 3 inches. He's a good shooter from the outside. He's got three-point range, which is something we're going to have to look for a little bit more, now that Eric's gone."

Lang said, "We're doing pretty good without him (Freund), trying to take up the slack of all the points he was scoring."

Rowinski said in the 92-68 loss against Massasoit, they were just facing a very strong team. The team featured a 6 foot 10 inch and a 6 foot 9 inch players and others in the 6 foot 5 inch range.

"Sometimes you lose and sometimes you're beaten," Rowinski said. "They just beat us."

The team's first loss of the season has since been reversed. A player on the opposing squad was declared ineligible, and the game was forfeited to the Knights.

Only one of their first six games has been played at home.

"I don't care what level of basketball you play," Rowinski said. "Whenever you play on the road, it's hard to win, especially at the college level."



M. Taylor photo

NECC KNIGHT Rich Dube stretches for a rebound in a recent basketball game.

Sports play important at many U.S. colleges

By JAMIE ATKINSON
Observer Staff Reporter

Sports are a big part of college life. Without sports, many students wouldn't be able to attend the school of their choice. With sports some students get the chance to attend school on a scholarship.

Some people don't think it's fair for students to be judged on their athletic abilities and not on the basis of their academic accomplishments.

If an athlete can't afford college, but can maintain the grades needed to be accepted to a four-year school, he or she has every right to be awarded a scholarship and attend school.

Get involved: Not only does sports help athletes get into school, but it also enhances the college community.

It adds spirit and gives students the chance to get involved in something other than their studies. There are a lot of aspects about college sports that need work. More and

more colleges have a big-time sports team put on probation for a violation like illegal recruiting.

Although these allegations are serious, the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) doesn't inflict punishment in the proper manner.

Prosecute violators: Instead of punishing the athletes who have worked so hard, the NCAA should punish the individual or individuals who committed the error.

For example, if a team is found guilty of a recruiting violation, instead of giving the team the death sentence (no post season games for three years), the NCAA should decide who was responsible for the violation and hold that person responsible.

There is no reason for an athlete or a team to be held responsible for someone else's actions.

Become part of a winning team
Join the 1991 Observer staff



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Newspaper
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Observer wins Pacemaker Award

For the second consecutive year, the NECC student newspaper the NECC *Observer*, has been awarded a Regional Pacemaker Award in a contest sponsored by the Associated Collegiate Press (ACP).

The *Observer* was one of 12 community college newspapers in the nation and the only two-year college newspaper in the East region to receive this award which recognizes outstanding collegiate journalism.

John R. Dimitry, NECC president, said, "This award confirms that Northern Essex has one of the best student newspapers in the New England area."

Administration impressed: "I'm excited about this award and proud of what adviser Joe LeBlanc and the hard-working staff of editors and reporters have accomplished," he said.

LeBlanc, faculty adviser to the *Observer*, said, "In these dark and often dismal days for higher education, Northern Essex Community College should be quite proud of the fact that it is the home of the best two-year college newspaper in the East region."

The *Observer* is a bi-weekly newspaper published 12 times during the school year. All members of NECC's staff and student body are welcome to submit articles for publication.

In addition, the college offers an associate's degree program in liberal arts with a degree concentration in journalism and broadcasting.

Awards presentation: This year's editorial staff, many of whom worked as editors last year, were honored at an awards presentation

at the ACP National Convention in Washington D.C. on Nov. 4.

Observer staff members during 1989-90, the year for which the paper was judged, during the first semester included Shaun Donahue of Salisbury, editor; Gavin Sutcliffe of North Reading, news editor; Saba Fatimah of Haverhill, features editor; Christopher Drogos of North Andover, arts and entertainment editor; and Keith Alfeiri of Tewksbury, photo editor.

The second semester staff included Donahue, editor; Sutcliffe, news editor; Greg Joiner of Hampton, N.H., features/arts co-editor; Melissa Buchikos of Haverhill, features/arts co-editor; Laura Migliori of Haverhill, sports editor; and Melanie Taylor of Salem, N.H., photo editor.

Judges for the national competition included Nell Perry, former editor of the *Winston-Salem (N.C.) Journal*; Robert Hildrup, former columnist for the *News Leader (Va.)*; and Lucille DeView, *Orange County Register (Ca.)*.



Nationally recognized staff

JOE LEBLANC, seated, Christopher Drogos, Greg Joiner, Laura Migliori and Gavin Sutcliffe.

K. Pickard photo

NECC joins forces with area voc. schools

NECC and four area vocational technical schools have joined forces to address the occupational training needs of the Merrimack Valley. The group has formed a consortium of secondary and postsecondary institutions, the first of its kind in the state, designed to provide a plan for training the local workforce.

Included in the Merrimack Valley Occupational and Tech-Prep Educators Collaborative (MVOTEC) are NECC, Greater Lawrence Technical School (the largest vocational school in the country and recently named the United States Secretary of Education's Outstanding Vocational Program), Shawsheen Valley Technical High School in Billerica, and Whittier Regional Vocational Technical High School in Haverhill.

Community cooperation: John R. Dimitry, NECC president, said, "We plan to work as a group with the Private Industry Council and local chambers of commerce to develop programs of occupational training which will best fill the needs of local business and industry."

In addition to developing programs of study, goals of the consortium include increasing cooperation among secondary and postsecondary institutions, forming strong alliances with business, industry, and other organizations, sharing educational resources and facilities, upgrading facilities and resources utilizing a wide range of funding sources, and designing a seamless educational path which, if desired, leads smoothly to college and beyond.

NECC has had a close relationship with area vocational schools for many years, including sharing facilities and offering advanced placement to outstanding graduates of the four vocational schools including in the consortium.

"Community colleges and vocational technical schools are the primary occupational educators in this country and by working together even more closely, we can deliver workers who are better trained and better prepared to enter the local job force," Dimitry said. "We hope that our union will serve as an example for other schools to follow."



File photo

CHARLES LYONS, Shawsheen Valley Technical High School, Karen Prentice, Whittier Regional Vocational Technical School, Louis E. Gleason, Greater Lawrence Technical School, John R. Dimitry, NECC president, and F. Nelson Burns, Greater Lowell Vocational Technical School, sign educational cooperation agreement.

Music Club to play holiday concert this Friday

The NECC Chorus and Performance Ensemble will present a holiday pops concert Friday, Dec. 14, under the direction of Michael Finegold of the college's faculty.

The program will include music in the classical, jazz, pop and rock styles. Seating will be cabaret style and cakes, cider and soft

drinks are included in the \$2 admission price.

Highlights of the program will include *For Unto Us a Child is Born*, from Handel's *Messiah*, a choral piece accompanied by a synthesized Baroque orchestra; *That's All It Takes*, an original Christmas ballad written by NECC student Anneliese Schumm of North

Andover, featuring chorus and vocal and piano solos; and *Riu Riu Chiu*, a Renaissance Spanish carol for a capella chorus.

Varied music: Jazz arrangements will also be featured, including *Silver Bells*, *My Favorite Things*, and *Carol of the Bells*, a Ukrainian Christmas carol with a clarinet solo; rock

versions of *Winter Wonderland*, Emerson, Lake and Palmer's *I Believe in Christmas*, and *Hanukkah Around the Bend* for chorus and piano.

The performance will begin at 7:30 p.m. in the Student Center. For more information, call (508) 374-5820.



**Happy holidays from all of us
at the NECC Observer
Have a safe holiday break
See you in '91**